Behind the U. Hospital Controversy • The Sights of Spring
We Almost Lost Sy Murray • Korean Cooking at the Panda

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May, 1979 Vol. III, No. 9

Why Was Joel Samoff Fired?

City Election Wrap-Up: A Victory for Apathy

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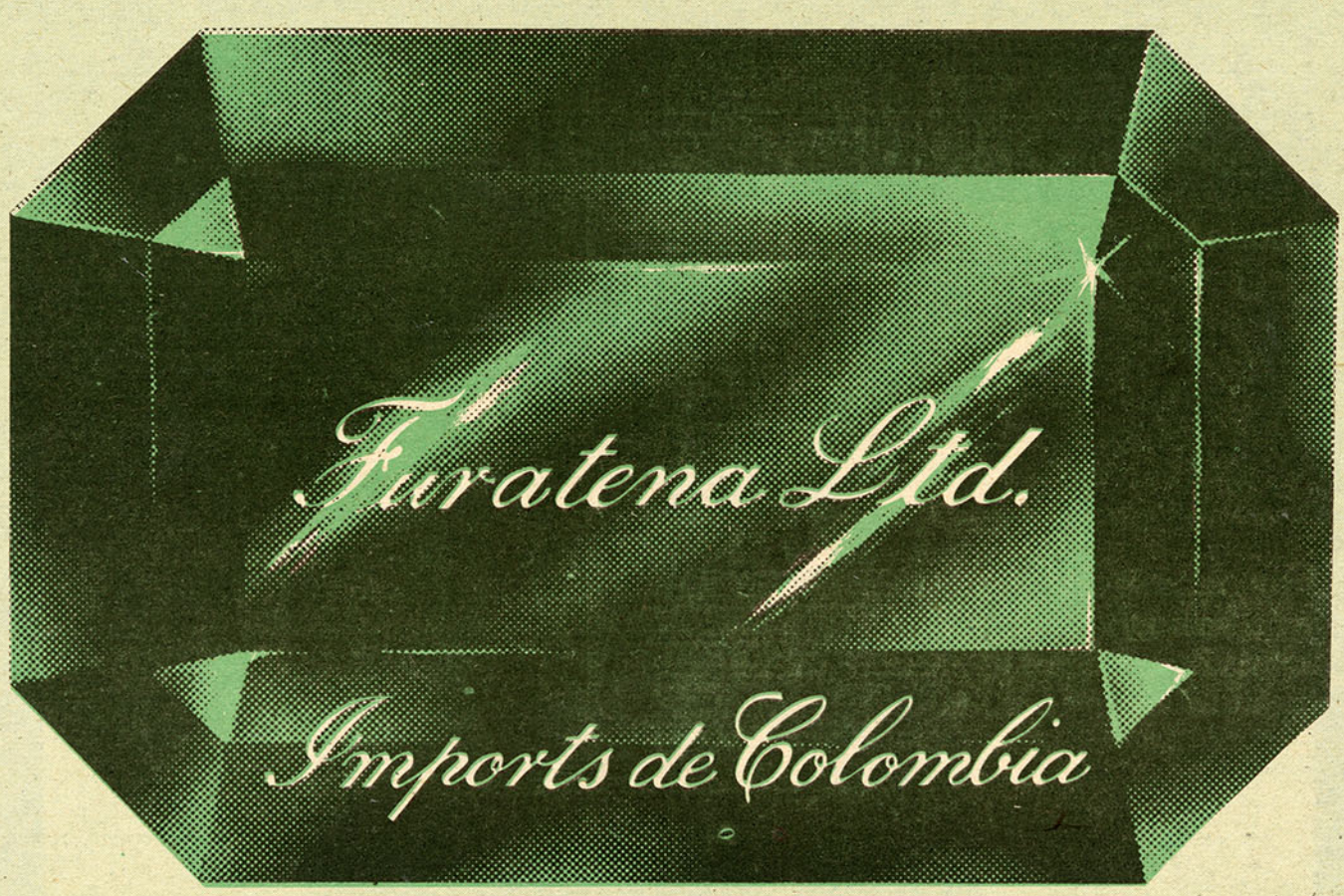

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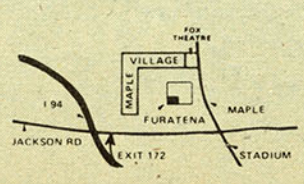

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Ann Arbor Observer

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Cover photo of Joel Samoff by Peter Yates

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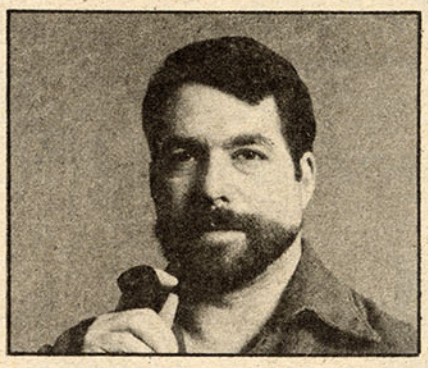

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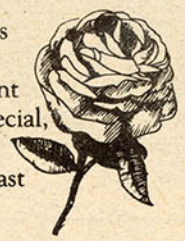

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Around Town

Our lackadaisical Planning Commission

COMPLAINTS about apathy and poor attendance on the Ann Arbor Planning Commission have been surfacing all winter. At the April 10 session this disaffection with the lackadaisical performance of some commissioners reached a peak when not even enough of them showed up to hold a meeting. That evening some twenty citizens, along with city Planning Director Martin Overhiser, waited for half an hour for a sixth member of the nine-person commission to show up to form a quorum. When no one else showed up, the meeting was rescheduled for the next week.

Just how bad has attendance been? We reviewed Planning Commission attendance at regular sessions (which meet twice a month) from July 7 through April 10. It turns out that four commissioners have missed five or more of the eighteen meetings, averaging an almost 33% absenteeism rate.

At the twice-monthly working sessions, which allow commissioners time beyond the regular sessions to study and discuss selected projects and reports, attendance has been even worse. Says one commissioner, a regular attender, "When you get six members to the working sessions, you're lucky."

The Planning Commission plays a major role in determining the physical make-up of the city. It is charged with reviewing project plans and plans for new construction and development, as well as with adopting long-range city plans for growth and preservation. The commission's recommendations then go to City Council, which makes the final decisions about how land will be used. The nine commission members are appointed by the mayor and serve three-year terms, except for one member from the City Council, who serves one year.

Mayor Lou Belcher has so far appointed four of the commissioners, including three with notably poor attendance—Harry Durbin, Toby Wagner, and Roberta Shrope. We asked the mayor what he thought of the situation. "Obviously, on such an important commission, I would think that attendance should be at the same level as City Council," he said. "We should expect 90% attendance."

Serving on Planning Commission takes considerable time and work for those who take the job seriously. Meetings are weekly, with occasional committee meetings. Third Ward Republican councilman Cliff Sheldon, the commission's council representative, told us, "When you come on the commission, you're presented with a batch of adopted plans and studies that must be a foot thick which you have to familiarize yourself with. Then the packet for the weekly meeting takes a couple of hours of study in itself." And that's not to mention all the time involved in meetings and talking to citizens and to planning staff members. A conscientious commissioner will do all those things; disinterested ones may skimp on their homework. Some critics charge that the almost inert state of some commissioners throughout the meetings suggests these people aren't really up on the issues under consideration.

The Planning Commission's role in considering specific proposed new projects is most visible. Its role in forming area-wide plans and policies is also significant. And here, too, the commission seems to be suffering from inertia. Three major plans have arrived at the first draft stage only to languish there for the last two and even three years. These include the Central Area Neighborhood Plan, the Zoning Chapter Rewrite, and the Parks Plan. All three involved major investments of time and effort by the city's planning staff and citizen committees, but now appear bottled up by the commission for quite a while to come.

PLANNING COMMISSION ATTENDANCE

July 11, 1978-April 10, 1979

Attendance Record		Year Appointed
100%	Cliff Sheldon, Councilman	78
89%	Rick Herrmann, Chair	76
89%	Nancy White	77
89%	Letty Wickliffe	78
83%	Dick Black	76
72%	Roberta Shrope	78
72%	Toby Wagner	78
67%	Harry Durbin	78
67%	Norris Thomas	76

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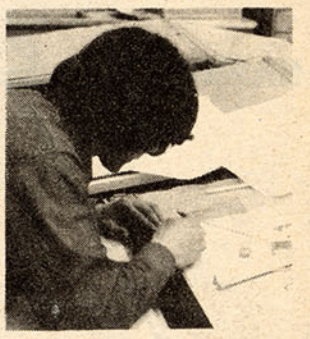
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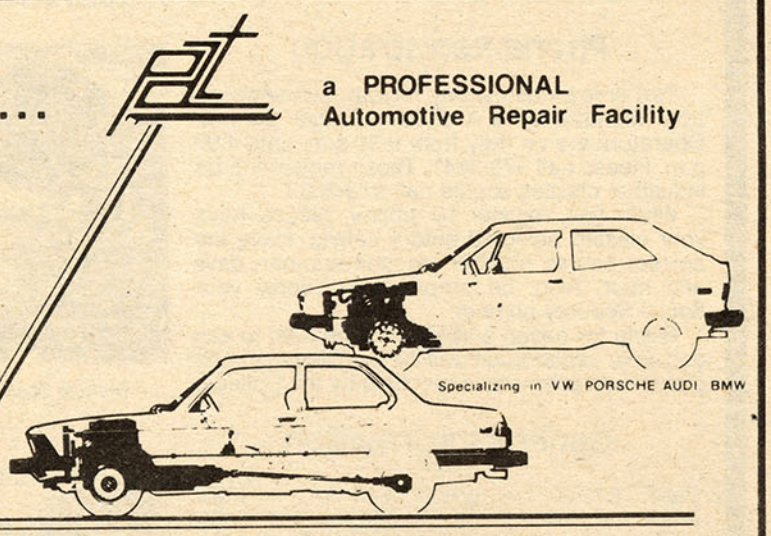

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Around Town /Continued

We almost lost Sy Murray.

City Administrator Sy Murray: to stay in Ann Arbor at least one more year.

RUMORS have been floating around City Hall recently that Sy Murray is about to take a job elsewhere. These rumors were fueled by reports that he had been interviewed for several positions.

We contacted Murray, and he admitted he had in fact interviewed for several jobs in the past few months. But he hastened to put the interviews into perspective: "My willingness to go on interviews relates to three things. Once a year, I want to see if I'm still marketable. So I do it deliberately to find out. Secondly, usually when a professional headhunter contacts me, I respond at least for an interview, because I may want to use those guys one day when I have to. Thirdly, at each mayoral election year, you just should be out there testing the waters, because one never knows—you may find yourself in a situation where the council changes and a new majority holds different opinions, and you don't want to be caught in a position where you are asked to leave and don't have a place to go."

We mentioned to Murray that a top city Republican predicted before the election that if Democrat Kenworthy were elected mayor, Murray would resign. "That is not true," Murray responded immediately. "I think I could have worked very well with Kenworthy. I have a lot of respect for the man."

What then, we asked, were the results of his job interviews? Is Sy Murray still "marketable"? "I'm satisfied that somebody else would have offered me a job. That makes me feel good, and that means I can work harder here," he said with a laugh. He plans to stay around for at least another year.

Murray said he was offered a job as county administrator in a large populous county near New York City, but he wasn't tempted because the location "would not have added to my quality of life."

He was also interviewed for the job of city administrator of Washington, D.C., a job he told us he would have accepted if it had been offered. "It got down to two people, me and another fellow from California, and they actually hired the guy from California. It would have been a prestigious job with a lot of money, but boy, do they have problems in Washington D.C. The city also controls the school budget, and they're in the midst of a strike. But talk about money and employees. It really was a big position."

Behind the U. Hospital controversy.

The original nucleus of University Hospital shortly after completion in 1923.

ACCORDING TO U-M SOURCES, what is really at stake in the dispute over how big and expensive the new University Hospital should be is the future quality of the U-M Medical School. For over a century the U-M has had one of the top medical schools in the country. But to the dismay of university officials, in the last national rankings of medical schools the U-M Medical School didn't even make the top ten. Much of the blame is given the school's antiquated hospital facilities, which have become increasingly unattractive to medical faculty and students.

One person we talked to sees the situation as so bad that if a new hospital isn't built soon which compares favorably with the hospitals of the nation's other top medical schools, the U-M Medical School could quickly become a second-class facility. This would be a severe blow to the overall national stature of the university, university officials say privately. They claim that to plan a hospital simply on the basis of regional needs, as some critics of the proposed hospital want to do, is to view the matter in much too narrow a context. If such critics are heeded, they say, the state can forget about having a really first-rate medical school.

Judge saves neighborhood woods in possible precedent-setting decision.

Peter Yates

The southern portion of the Dions' eighteen acres, at Packard and Gladstone. In a suit brought by neighbors, a judge has ordered that five acres in the northern portion of the property be preserved.

COURT BATTLES brought about by neighborhoods to stop or modify nearby building developments usually succeed only in delaying the projects. But a ruling last month by a Circuit Court judge in a suit brought by the Kimberly Hills Neighborhood Association was a surprising and spectacular victory for the neighborhood. If the judge's decision holds up through the appeals process it will likely set a precedent that will make life a lot more difficult for developers throughout the state.

The suit by the K.H.N.A. was brought against developers Henry and Patricia Dion, who planned to build ninety dwelling units on eighteen partially wooded acres off Gladstone Avenue near Packard. The neighborhood had been trying to buy the land for several years to preserve it in its natural state, but was not able to come up with enough money to purchase it. When neighbors found out about the Dions' plans, they began exerting every political and legal pressure they could to have at least some of the land left in its natural state.

All tactics seemed to have failed until their attorney, Fred Steingold, argued in Circuit Court that half the eighteen acres should be preserved under Michigan's Environmental Protection Act of 1970. Among other things, Steingold argued that the city land is "a natural wildlife habitat for myriad animals and wildlife," "an area of natural growth containing myriad trees and shrubs," and that the land contains a seasonal natural pond.

Judge Benjamin Stanczyk bought Steingold's argument—at least in part. He permanently enjoined the Dions from tampering with five of their acres, including four acres around the natural pond and one acre of wildlife corridors connecting the four acres with adjacent woods. This marks the first time Michigan's Environmental Protection Act has been used to protect land in an urban area.

The Dions' attorney, Bob Henry, scoffs at the idea that any part of the eighteen acres should qualify as a wildlife refuge. He notes that the land was farmed until the 1930's and is hardly the home of any endangered species.

But Henry admits that Stanczyk's decision was a literal application of the state's vaguely worded law. He is in the process now of appealing directly to the state Supreme Court, asking that the law be overturned. There are two basic problems with the law, in Henry's opinion:

1. No compensation is provided for the Dions, even though the state, in effect, is taking their private land for public benefit.

2. There are no predictable standards for what constitutes a "natural resource" which ought to be preserved. "If someone comes in and buys a piece of property," says Henry, "he ought to be able to have some predictable idea of how much property he's ultimately going to be able to use and how much he's not. A blade of grass. An ant. A tree. They're all natural resources. Where do you draw the line?"

Henry believes that if Stanczyk's ruling isn't overturned, "It's going to be an absolute disaster for developers." If however, the ruling is upheld, neighborhoods throughout the state will have a new legal basis for preserving neighborhood woods.

Police report on 1978 city crimes.

THE ANNUAL POLICE REPORT is out, revealing all sorts of things about the quality and quantity of crimes that visited our city last year. The report indicates that 1978 was a big year for murders here—five in all—compared with only one in 1977. There were 26 rapes, 115 robberies (half of them armed), 234 assaults, 1,553 burglaries, and 389 auto thefts. There were also 35 arsons in 1978, 1,627 instances of vandalism, and 335 people arrested for disorderly conduct.

Pick-pocketing—at least those which were detected—appears to be an uncommon crime in the city—only 7 last year, compared with 32 purse snatchings and 5 bank robberies.

Males continue to outpace females in criminal activity. Females committed less than 10% of the assaults, 3% of the burglaries, and 17% of the robberies.

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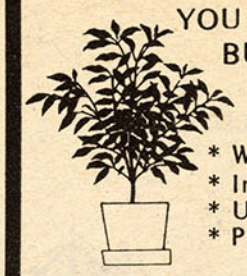

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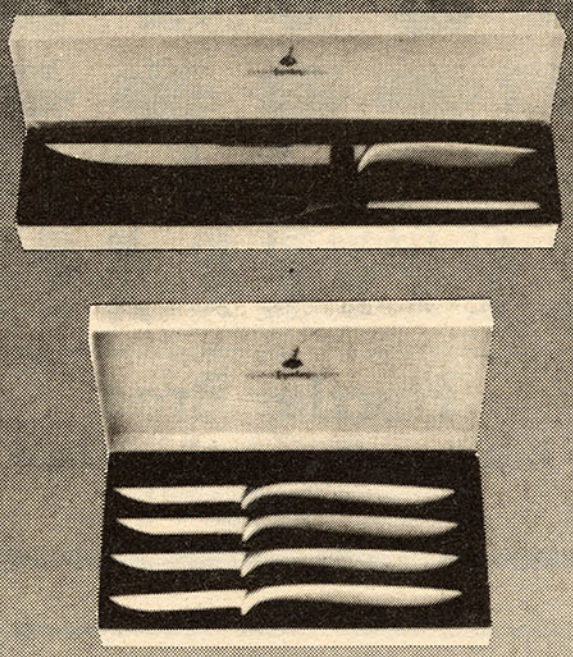

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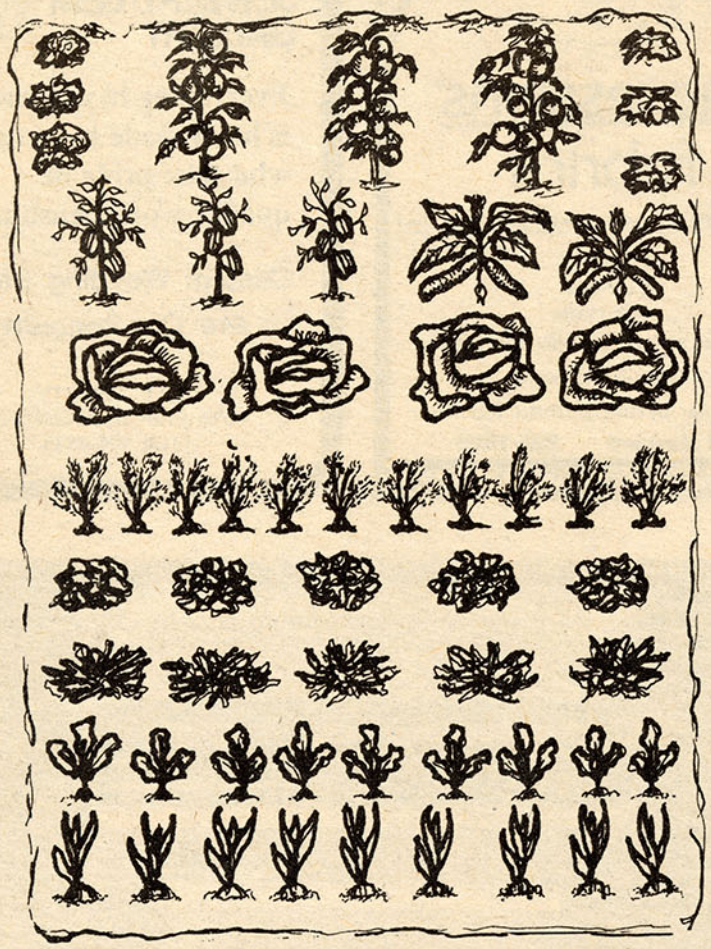

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Democrats fume over News election coverage.

THROUGHOUT the recent city election campaigns, Democrats were furious about what they saw as wholly inadequate coverage of the election by *The Ann Arbor News.* Democratic mayoral candidate Jamie Kenworthy says it was one factor that contributed to his defeat. "Those characters don't cover elections. They never did any kind of analysis. They didn't do anything on the planning disputes." Kenworthy was hoping that media coverage would help him to overcome Belcher's larger campaign budget and advantages of incumbency. Belcher made no secret of the fact that a low visibility campaign suited him fine. He got his wish.

Even a number of News staffers are highly critical of their paper's coverage, or non-coverage of the election. "There's no doubt that the lack of coverage helped Belcher," said one. "Inadvertently, we may have played into the Republicans' hands." This reporter says that there wasn't any conscious plan to help Belcher, only a lack of any forethought and planning for covering the election. "We focused on the airport issue, which never became an issue in the campaign." The issue of growth and development, central to the campaign, was never adequately examined, *News* insiders admit, nor were the personalities of the candidates effectively communicated.

In addition to the lack of planning, there were other problems. Chong Pyen, the News' city government reporter, was covering his first city election, and family matters took him to his native Korea for two weeks during the campaign. City Editor Bob Romaker was on vacation the week before the election. Unlike past years, the candidates themselves were never formally interviewed.

Perhaps most surprising was the News' failure to endorse a candidate in the mayor's race, something it has regularly done in the recent past. Internal squabbling at the paper was the cause. Although Editor Herb Spendlove denies that there was any conflict, other staffers report a different story. In fact, a member of the editorial staff had prepared a lengthy editorial endorsing Kenworthy. Spendlove unilaterally killed it but didn't order an endorsement of Belcher.

Defeated mayoral candidate Jamie Kenworthy: "Those characters don't cover elections. They never did any kind of analysis."

Ann Arbor News Editor Herb Spendlove: denies killing editorial endorsing Kenworthy.

Spendlove says endorsement decisions are made by the Editorial Board, which includes himself and five or six others. "Oh, bullshit," responded a News staffer. "*The Michigan Daily* has an editorial board; *The Ann Arbor News* doesn't. To my knowledge, there has never been a meeting at which they sat down and discussed endorsing a candidate."

The non-endorsement stance, and the way in which it was handled, annoyed several News staff members. "I'm not sure endorsements make that much difference, but at least we could, in good conscience, have said we fulfilled our role," said one. Another said: "I kept wondering what we were going to do about endorsements, then I remembered we weren't covering this election."

Ironically, Spendlove says he was bothered by the low turnout at the polls, and he criticizes Ann Arborites for not having enough interest in their city. Spendlove, who came to Ann Arbor two years ago, makes no effort to hide his disdain for local politics here. He told us he was "amazed" to find that Ann Arbor has a ward system. "Wards went out fifty, a hundred years ago," he says.

Spendlove also told us he thinks members of City Council are too concerned cerned with what he sees as narrow ward issues, such as the airport, which oddly enough, was the only issue the *News* highlighted in the campaign. He would like to see City Council elected on a non-partisan basis.

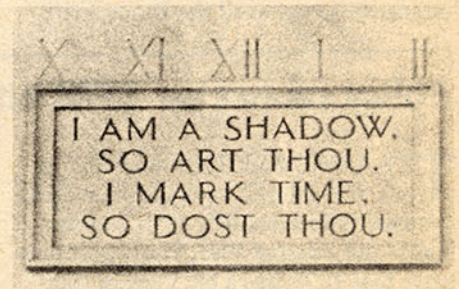
Test of the Town

By Bob Breck

IF YOU KNOW where this mysterious motto is, you have a chance to win a record album of your choice from the Liberty Music Shop, 417 East Liberty. Send us the exact address, postmarked on or before May 2, and we'll choose two of the correct answers as winners. (Hand deliveries will be disallowed.)

Mail answers to Ann Arbor Observer, 206 South Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

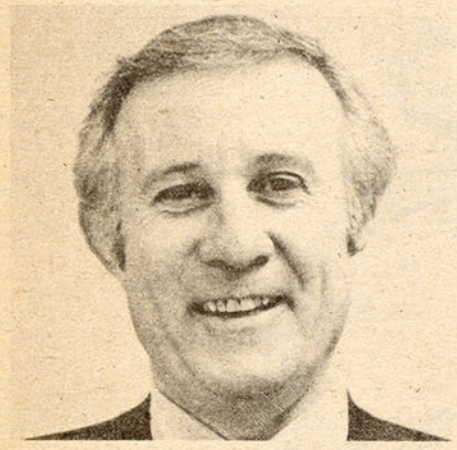
Mary Dowdle and Steve Robinson were last month's winners. They were among 22 entrants who knew that the sawn and scalloped wood siding was on the large yellow house at 401 Lawrence, corner of Division.



Canned clerk fights back.

FORMER CITY CLERK Jerome Weiss, fired by City Administrator Sy Murray for incompetence nearly a year ago, has filed a $2 million damage suit against the city in Federal District Court. Regardless of how the suit is eventually resolved, both sides are likely to be embarrassed in the process. Some city officials and political party activists who dealt with Weiss thought that the action was long overdue. At the same time, the manner in which the city handled the firing might enable Weiss to get a sympathetic reaction from a judge or jury.

Weiss refused to discuss the suit, but the complaint he filed alleges that he was denied his Constitutional right to due process because there was no hearing or review of his dismissal. He also claims he was "defamed" by Murray's critical comments to the media when the firing was announced. He is suing Murray, all of the then-present members of City Council, and the city itself.



Former City Clerk Jerome Weiss: claims he was "defamed."

City Attorney Bruce Laidlaw will ask the court to dismiss the suit as groundless. Recent court decisions, he says, establish that there is no property right in employment, so there is no requirement of due process in firings. In any event, adds Laidlaw, Weiss never sought review by City Council or under the city's hearing procedures for non-union employees. As a public figure, Weiss would have to prove that Murray's remarks were made with malice, even if they were untrue, according to Laidlaw.

Weiss's firing may or may not have been Constitutional, but it certainly wasn't done in accordance with the City Charter. The City Administrator may suspend the Clerk, but the Charter specifies that City Council must decide to remove or retain him within 30 days. Murray unilaterally dismissed Weiss and never referred the matter to Council.

Weiss probably would have been fired, anyway. Murray is confident that Council would have supported him, and one councilmember says the vote would have been unanimous.

A veteran of the city's purchasing department, Weiss had no previous experience with elections, and some said he never worked very hard to master the political subtleties of partisan politics.

Weiss drew fire in 1974 for allowing the Human Rights Party to have exclusive control of a voter registration site on campus. It relieved the Clerk of the task of scheduling deputy registrars for the site, but it also allowed HRP workers, unwatched by the other parties, to do unauthorized door-to-door registration in some of their strongest precincts.

In 1975, unable to cope with implementing preferential voting for the mayor's race, Weiss hired an outside election consultant at a cost of thousands of dollars to the city.

Election workers frequently complained of inadequate training or preparation for elections and a variety of procedural foul-ups. Party officials battled with Weiss frequently.

And then there was the 1977 one-vote mayoral race, which had to be re-run the following year because township residents had been allowed to register and vote in the city. Although the township voter problem started before Weiss assumed office, he was aware of it and had failed to correct it. Both Democratic Mayor Albert Wheeler and Republican challenger Louis Belcher blamed Weiss for the fiasco.

Despite the general displeasure with his work, Weiss claims he received nothing but satisfactory performance ratings from Murray. City Hall sources say Weiss's personnel file will confirm this. Murray said only, "That's not completely true."

Murray says the decision to fire Weiss was made some time before the 1978 city election. He didn't tell Weiss then because he feared that the Clerk would be in such a bad mental state that he wouldn't be able to handle competently the April election.

When Belcher won the election and Republicans took firm control of City Council, the *Ann Arbor Observer* reported in its April issue that Weiss's job might be in jeopardy. Weiss immediately went to Murray to ask if the story was accurate. Despite the fact that he had already decided to fire Weiss himself, Murray reassured Weiss that he was "not in trouble" with City Council. Murray says he did not mislead Weiss, because it was he, and not the Council, which would do the firing. Weiss, on the other hand, took Murray's comments to mean that his job was secure. A month later, Murray fired him.

Murray was asked to explain why he didn't tell Weiss he was going to fire him. "I didn't want it assumed that the article was the cause of the firing," Murray said.

Weiss is quite bitter about the way he was treated. Had the matter been handled better, the city might have been spared a potentially expensive and embarrassing lawsuit.

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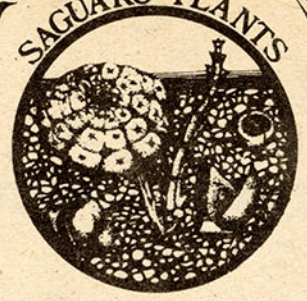

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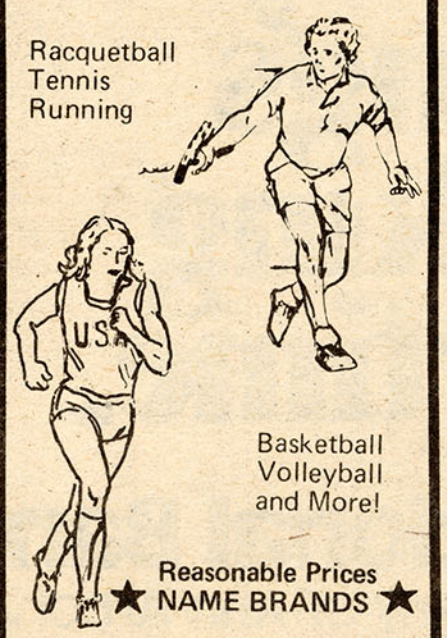

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Why Was Joel Samoff Fired?

Few causes in recent years have generated as much support among U-M students as the movement to reverse the decision to deny tenure to Joel Samoff. It's a controversy that reflects growing tensions within American universities today.

By Don Hunt

The PhD glut

FOR BEING SUCH an important decision, one which can have a momentous effect on an individual's career, a tenure decision usually greets the world with little fanfare. Typically it is the department chairman's job to call the assistant professor in question and tell him or her whether to start looking for another position or to settle down to a life of virtually assured job security. Although word of such news spreads quickly through a department to the tenure candidate's colleagues, it is as likely as not that an assistant professor's students will never learn about that fateful tenure decision.

When the chairman's message is "tenure denied," it is very depressing news indeed. Besides the onus of not having made the team you've spent five or six years working like crazy to win a permanent position on, there looms today the increasingly great prospect that you, along with many other talented, motivated young academics, will get squeezed out of academia no matter what your qualifications, because there are so few academic openings anywhere.

What a cruel contrast to the "go-go sixties"! Back then there weren't enough graduating PhDs to meet the demand. American universities in the 1960's were greatly expanding in size to accommodate the baby-boom college students. So the graduate schools across the country geared up to produce more and more PhD graduates to fill the country's expanding colleges.

You would think the country was going to war, a war which could only be won by PhD graduates—so greatly did the country's PhD mills expand their rate of production. But by the early 1970's there came the predicted downturn in the PhD academic job market. Enrollments in colleges began to shrink, just as demographers had said they would, forcing departments to cut back on hiring new faculty just at the time a bumper crop of new PhDs was graduating and seeking academic positions. Further, many departments were beginning to fill up with tenured professors, leaving fewer and fewer slots for new faculty. The net result: a glut of talented young PhDs on the market, many of whom are now faced with changing jobs after years of preparation for scholarly careers. For those who continue to hunt for a teaching position, the competition (in some instances over one hundred applications for a single position) is reaching unprecedented levels.

The dismal academic job market has created a dramatic situation around the tenure decision. The stakes are high, in some cases a matter of either academic security or academic oblivion. Yet these decisions are largely unnoticed by the community at large.

One exception is the case of Joel Samoff. Samoff was denied tenure by the political science department at Michigan in 1977 and again in 1978. A number of public protests, both within and outside the university, followed the department's decision.

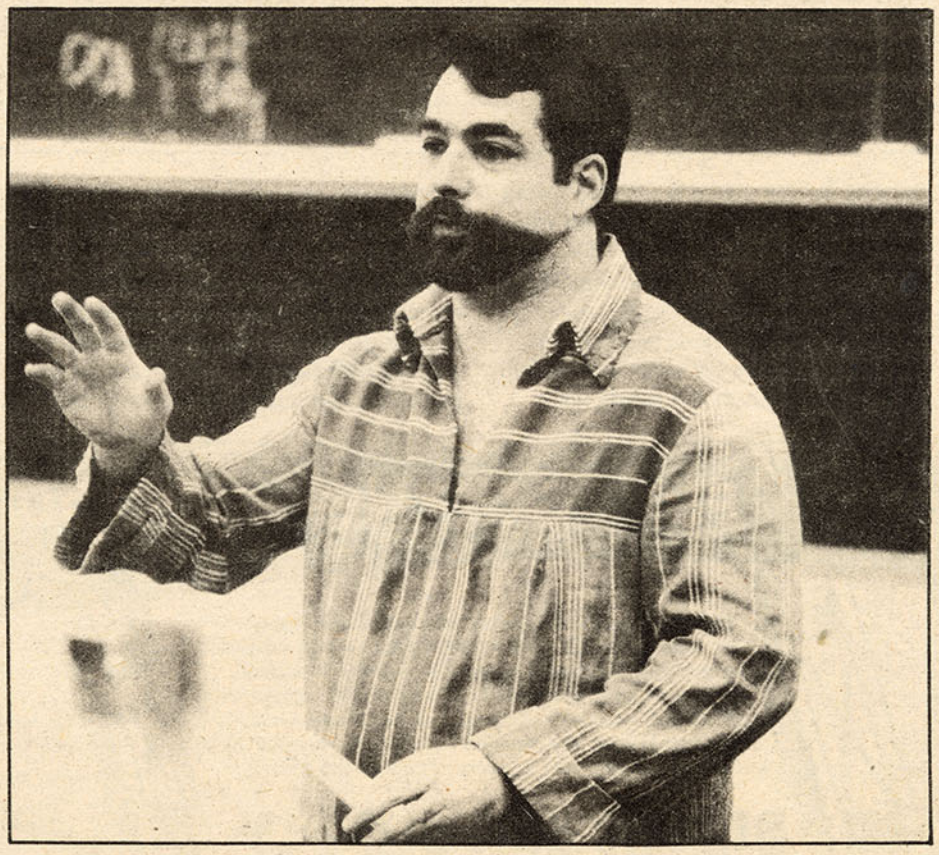
U-M students have staged several mass demonstrations and sent repeated delegations to college and university administrators to protest the department's decision. Numerous U-M student government bodies have passed resolutions condemning the action. And some fifty U-M faculty have joined the protest by signing letters which support tenure for Samoff. Moreover, over a dozen faculty from other universities have sent personal letters to the college dean and other U-M officials asking that the decision be reconsidered. The controversy has received almost weekly coverage by the student-run *Michigan Daily*, and more sporadic coverage in the Ann Arbor and Detroit dailies.

None of the coverage and commentary, however, has included a serious attempt to answer the question: exactly why *did* the political science department fire Joel Samoff?

My search for the answer to this question began as a search for the Truth. Was justice or injustice done Joel Samoff by his colleagues, who had to decide whether to take him into the bosom of the department with the lifetime contract of tenure or to boot him out into the burgeoning mass of PhD graduates competing for the relatively few academic positions still available in other universities? Had the political science department acted villianously in kicking out a dissident whose real value to the university was immense? Or had they simply upheld the true standards of excellence of The University of Michigan—a courageous stand at the cost of probable villification by the students and the media?

I spent over thirty hours interviewing some two dozen people in trying to answer that question. What I began to realize toward the end of my investigation is that the circumstances surrounding a close tenure decision in a large department are so complex, with so many different views and so many possible motivations, that no objective investigator could honestly claim to boil the controversy down to the simple question of right and wrong.

What did emerge from my search for the Truth behind the Samoff tenure decision, however, was a behind-the-scenes glimpse of a top American political science department struggling in increasingly difficult times to maintain an eminence it has enjoyed for over four decades. The tensions today within Michigan's political science department may be higher than in most other U-M departments. But



Peter Yates

Joel Samoff teaching a political science class at Michigan. Said one of the faculty members who voted to deny him tenure: "It was very, very tough. Bear in mind, he's got an outstanding teaching record. If he's not the best teacher we've ever had, he's pretty close to being the best. You don't just dump that. It was a very, very tough thing for people to wrestle with."

they nonetheless reflect the mounting stress caused by tenure decisions in most departments today. Most observers predict the situation will only get worse in the years ahead.

The need to grow your own stars

THE PAST FEW YEARS have not been good ones for the U-M political science department. It has lost, at the worst of all possible times, several of its star professors, the most recent being Robert Putnam, who will be leaving soon to go to Harvard. Normally, when such a star from a top department is lost, there is an immediate search to find another star to fill the gap in the department's lineup. If this doesn't occur within a reasonable period, others in the field across the country will likely perceive that the department has "fallen" in the overall quality of its faculty. Few things are more distressful to department members, for a decline in national reputation will likely make it all the harder to attract high-quality faculty and graduate students. Sometimes the dislodging of just one faculty star from a department's roster can set in motion a mass exodus of other top department members, causing a renowned department to plummet to mediocrity in just a few years. It is a nightmare scenario which the top departments must always be on guard to prevent.

At an earlier time, when the U-M budget permitted it, political science department members would have combed the country to find a replacement for their lost star, and then used money, promised research facilities, cajolery, and whatever else it might take to get the star to come here. But the U-M, like a great many universities around the country, is faced with tighter and tighter budgets, and it no longer has the money to allow its departments, except in unusual circumstances, to go right out and make the $40,000-and-up offer it takes these days to lure the academic elite to Ann Arbor. Departments are increasingly faced with the need to grow their own stars—to recruit exceptional young PhD graduates at the (much cheaper) assistant professor level and wait for them to mature into the academic stars of the future.

So the setting for the Samoff tenure decision within the giant 62-member U-M political science department was hardly one of complacency. More than ever, the department was concerned over getting the very best young scholars possible, making competition especially keen for a place on the faculty.

Adding to tension over tenure decisions is department members' realization that the faculty size will have to shrink in the years ahead to keep in line with reduced student enrollments. The smaller the department, the more important each member becomes. Giving tenure to someone who then "goes to sleep" reduces by one more the pool from which the academic stars of the future must come.

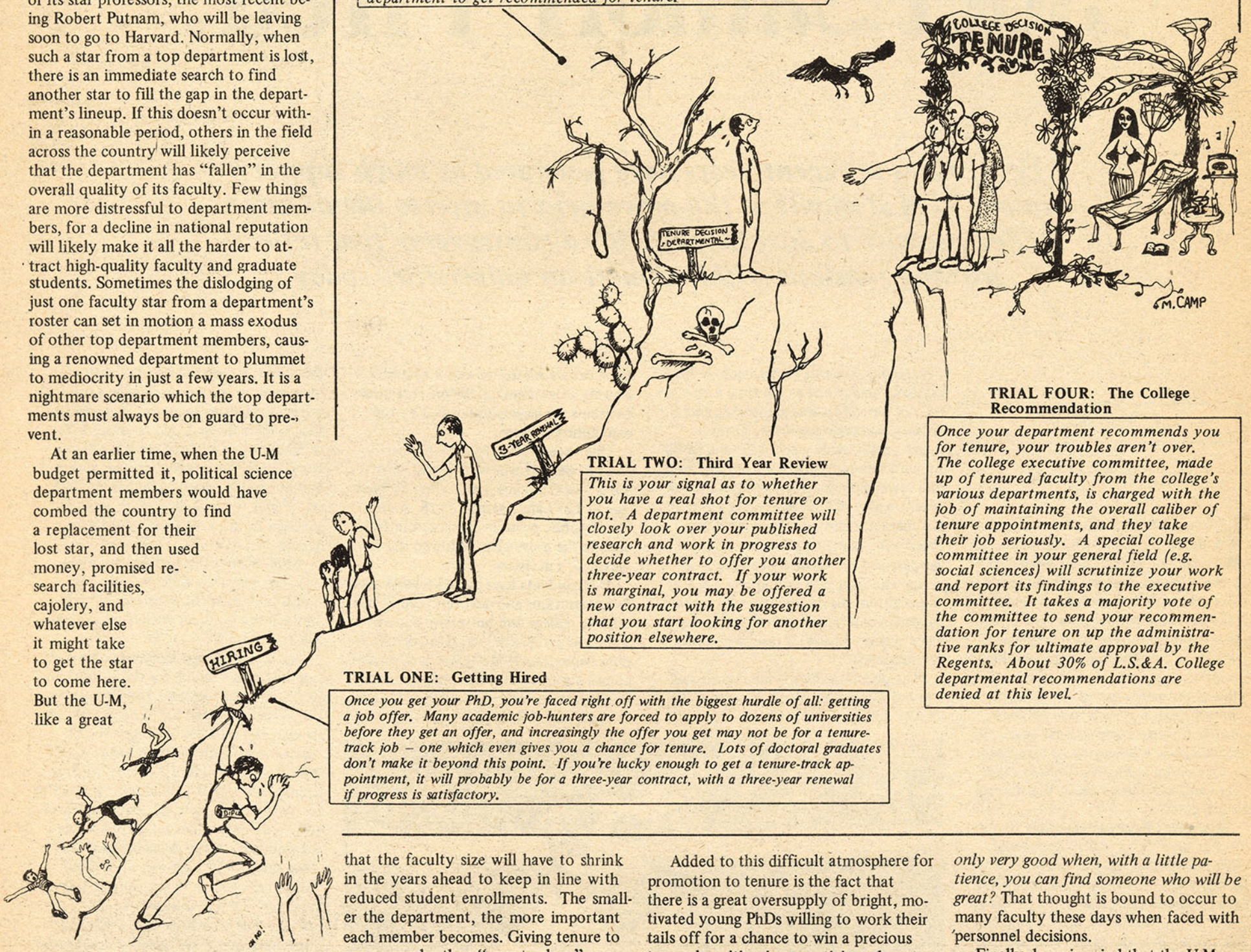
Added to this difficult atmosphere for promotion to tenure is the fact that there is a great oversupply of bright, motivated young PhDs willing to work their tails off for a chance to win a precious tenured position in a prestigious department like Michigan's political science department. *Why settle for someone who is only very good when, with a little patience, you can find someone who will be great?* That thought is bound to occur to many faculty these days when faced with personnel decisions.

Finally, keep in mind that the U-M political science department takes special pride in the rigorous scrutiny it gives tenure candidates. Like most top depart-

The Trial by Tenure

TRIAL THREE: Departmental Tenure Recommendation

Unless you've been able to publish something that has turned a lot of heads in your field, you can expect your department colleagues to brood a good deal about how outstanding your work really is before they recommend tenure. They will send out requests for evaluations of your work by the leading people in your specific field of research to help measure your national visibility. If you're a great classroom teacher, your chances for tenure are helped. But your research is the main thing, and if you're not already on your way toward making a name for yourself, tenure is unlikely. It takes at least a majority vote of the tenured faculty in your department to get recommended for tenure.



TRIAL TWO: Third Year Review

This is your signal as to whether you have a real shot for tenure or not. A department committee will closely look over your published research and work in progress to decide whether to offer you another three-year contract. If your work is marginal, you may be offered a new contract with the suggestion that you start looking for another position elsewhere.

TRIAL FOUR: The College Recommendation

Once your department recommends you for tenure, your troubles aren't over. The college executive committee, made up of tenured faculty from the college's various departments, is charged with the job of maintaining the overall caliber of tenure appointments, and they take their job seriously. A special college committee in your general field (e.g. social sciences) will scrutinize your work and report its findings to the executive committee. It takes a majority vote of the committee to send your recommendation for tenure on up the administrative ranks for ultimate approval by the Regents. About 30% of L.S.&A. College departmental recommendations are denied at this level.

TRIAL ONE: Getting Hired

Once you get your PhD, you're faced right off with the biggest hurdle of all: getting a job offer. Many academic job-hunters are forced to apply to dozens of universities before they get an offer, and increasingly the offer you get may not be for a tenure-track job – one which even gives you a chance for tenure. Lots of doctoral graduates don't make it beyond this point. If you're lucky enough to get a tenure-track appointment, it will probably be for a three-year contract, with a three-year renewal if progress is satisfactory.

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ments, it takes its worldwide reputation seriously. As department chairman Sam Barnes told me, "When we make decisions about tenure, we don't ask ourselves, 'Is this person outstanding?' Practically all the people we review for tenure are outstanding. We have to decide, rather, 'Is this the best person we are ever going to see in his or her area of research?' "

An inspirational teacher

THIS ELITIST EMPHASIS, no different than what's found at a Harvard, a Berkeley, or a Yale, creates a hurdle difficult for *anyone* seeking tenure in a top department these days—Samoff or anyone else. Don't mistakenly think that the department axed only Samoff. In the past two years, just three out of ten people up for tenure got it. This department is clearly not reluctant to send its junior members packing.

If Samoff is only one of many who have received the pink slip recently, why the big uproar over his dismissal? What makes the decision to deny Samoff tenure controversial is that, besides having a national reputation for work in his subarea of African politics, Samoff is generally conceded to be a superb teacher. He is one of those rare teachers who is able to *inspire* students to dig deeper into the subject matter he teaches. And if anyone doubts Samoff's credentials as a teacher at the U-M, all one need do is look at the student evaluations filled out after each semester. Samoff has the second highest evaluations in the entire department.

No departmental faculty relishes the prospect of giving the boot to an extremely popular teacher. Such a decision creates the appearance that the department cares a lot more for its national prestige than its students. The department's embarrassment in denying Samoff tenure was accentuated even more when in 1978 he was given one of seven university Distinguished Service Awards, signed by President Fleming, which reads in part:

Your popularity among students grows out of the almost endless energy you put into your teaching and the dedication you have for your students. Far from being an "easy mark," your courses are among the most demanding in the Political Science Department. You are constantly challenging students intellectually and forcing them continually to examine material from a critical perspective.

Your service to the University extends far beyond the classroom. You have taken an active role in the recruiting of minority faculty and graduate students in the Political Science Department. . . . Outside the University, you have taken an active interest in a wide range of community affairs.

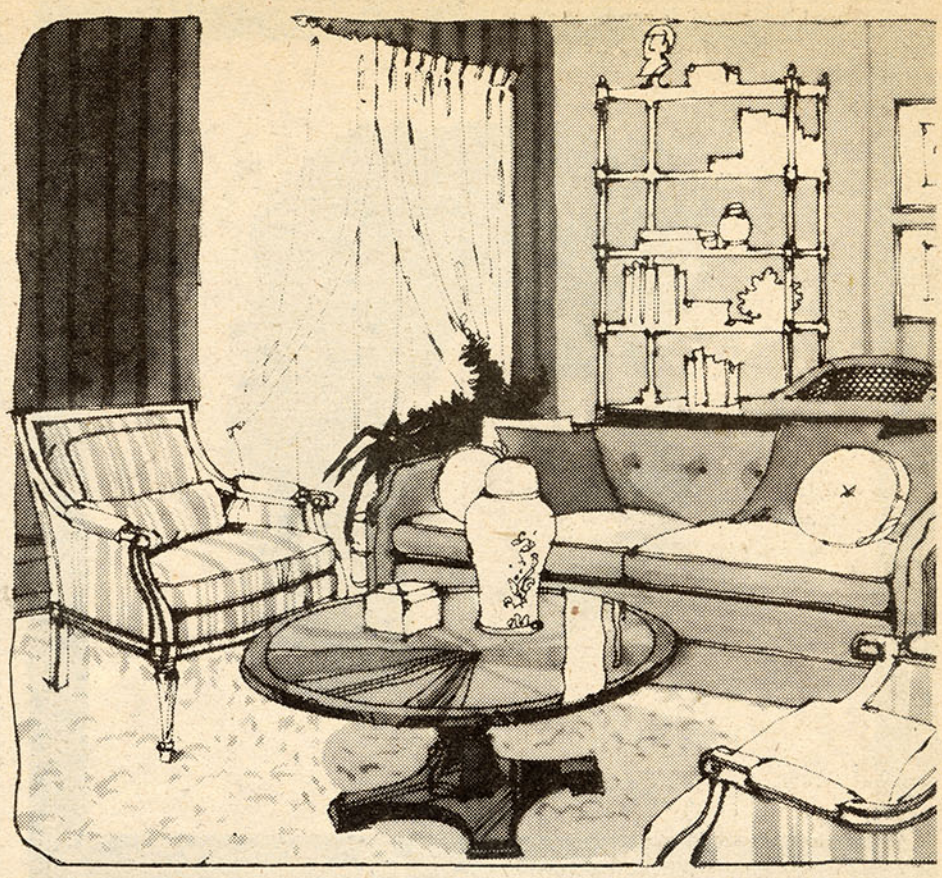
The impressive international reputation you have achieved in the fields of African politics and political economy is greatly admired by your colleagues.

So there were definitely reasons why the department would probably feel reluctant to fire Samoff. But according to department members who supported Samoff for tenure, there are reasons irrespective of his professional performance why a lot of department members may have been eager to get rid of him. For one thing, Samoff had been a vocal advocate for departmental reform almost from the minute he arrived in the department in 1970. His Nader-like, coolly factual recitation of departmental failings fit better in the tumultous times on campus a decade ago. But today, when most political science faculty consider their department more liberal and open to student input than most, Samoff's continual chidings that the department's affirmative action program is a charade, that the senior faculty doesn't assume enough of the teaching load . . . (the list goes on and on) were bound to grate on a lot of department members. Among not a few of the political science faculty, I have been told, Samoff is seen as a perpetual malcontent, increasingly out of step with the department's growing concern over its national academic ranking.

But beyond what some see as the factor of Samoff's grating activism, one can view Samoff's emphasis on teaching and minority recruitment as a positive threat to a department which, in a time of increasing constraints on its resources, is concerned about maintaining its national reputation. Samoff wants department members to spend more time teaching and less time doing research—a popular idea with most students, but an almost treasonous notion to those who feel their department has a reputation to protect for research excellence. Samoff's continual admonitions to his colleagues to divert even more of their dwindling departmental resources into non-star-producing avenues may well have rubbed a lot of them the wrong way, because what he was basically attacking was the departmental research elitism which is the central driving motive of this department, as well as most others.

Africa and Marx: Sources of departmental prejudice?

ANOTHER REASON some people think Samoff was in for trouble at tenure decision time was that his research speciality—African politics—is not an area that the department aspires to excel in. The department already has, in Ali Mazrui, a prominent African scholar, a significant "presence" in this sub-field. In a time of faculty contraction, is there really a need to have a second African specialist? Samoff was hired towards the end of the boom period in American higher education—an expansive period when Michigan's political science department was striving to excel in a great variety of sub-areas. But the African sub-area at Michigan was more a product of the racially-tense late sixties than a natural outgrowth of faculty interests. If we are going to lose faculty slots anyway, some members may have



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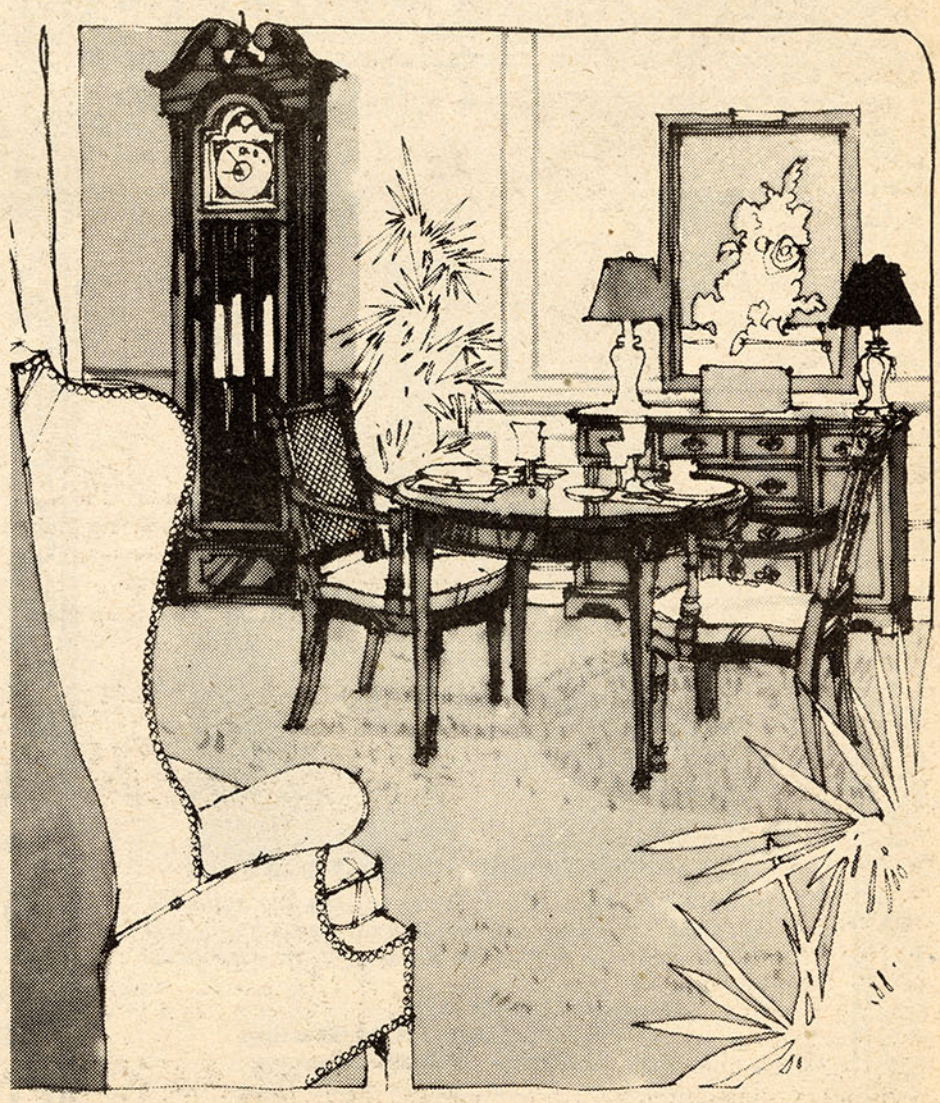

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reasoned, why not take our losses in less significant sub-areas such as African studies?

At least that's what some *claim* to have gone on in the minds of some of the faculty. This view does have a certain credence, given that there is now a committee looking for Samoff's replacement, and some of its members are questioning the need to look for another African specialist.

Then there is the claim that Samoff's research orientation, which became increasingly Marxist after he arrived at Michigan, prejudiced the chances for his work to be judged fairly. Samoff's research focus is the study of community politics in Africa—specifically the town of Moshi in Tanzania. Although his doctoral dissertation was a relatively conventional study of local politics, increasingly he came to feel that traditional American political science approaches to understanding the power structure of the community were too limited.

Samoff then turned to Marxian analysis to explain the power structure in African communities. One must take into account, he became convinced, that these are societies which have been exploited by western capitalistic countries—countries with a vested interest in keeping African civilization in a weak, backward state, and that an element of black society at the community level (the bourgeoise) will in its own self-interest seek to perpetuate the oppression of the masses by keeping alive the colonial economic structure—even in a country like Tanzania, which is nominally socialistic.

Later trips back to Tanzania in 1973, 1974, and 1975 reinforced his conclusions. "I asked the same questions I had earlier," he told me, "but from a different orientation, and it certainly seemed to me at that point that class and class conflict were salient features of the local areas that I had paid far too little attention to in 1969."

Although Marxian political scientists are not rare in America, they are hardly a part of the academic mainstream, and most of the profession tend to view them with suspicion. Marxians assume that friction between the oppressed and the ruling classes is the single most important cause in explaining change in the power structure of societies. What some see as the Marxian insistence on finding the "good guys" (the oppressed masses) and the "bad guys" (the capitalistic exploiters) can seem a bit pat, if not naive, to a professional political scientist trained to view power relationships as complex, often ambiguous phenomena. Marxists also have a poor track record, according to many political scientists, when it comes to backing up their conclusions with clear evidence.

Not only did Samoff's research orientation change in the early 1970's; his views about the relationship between research, on the one hand, and personal values and involvement on the other, also changed, further removing him from the departmental mainstream. Implicit in his new view was a critique of the practice of of present-day political science in America. Says Samoff, "I think that political science broadly in the U.S.; and certainly this is typical of the U-M political science department, has as one of its underlying bases a concern with stability, continuity, and equilibrium. Researchers tend to focus on what creates order and organization. That, of course, isn't announced as a value. What it does is get embedded in the kinds of questions that the political scientists ask.

"By contrast, the Marxist approach is one developed for those who are concerned with change—for people who are setting out to identify those who are exploited and attempting to understand society so that those who are exploited can do something about it.

"The purpose of trying to understand society is to try and make it better. In the effort to try and make it better, you understand it better, and in the effort to understand it better, you can make it better."

Samoff's value-laden, improvement-oriented view of how political scientists ought to go about their research is in marked contrast to the more detached way in which most scientists think their investigations should be conducted. No doubt, Samoff's more idealistic, more romantic approach to the field has a greater appeal to the romantic minds of many college students than the drier stuff dished up in the classroom by many of his colleagues. One can easily imagine another political science professor grumbling to himself, "Hell, I'd be one of the most popular teachers in the department too if I taught the kind of crap he teaches."

In defense of firing Samoff

SO YOU CAN SEE that there are lots of reasons why the political science department faculty may have denied Samoff tenure, even though his record is excellent. But let's allow the

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faculty to speak for themselves.

I set out to talk with as many of the political science faculty who voted against tenure for Samoff as I could in order to find out just why they voted to deny him tenure. This task was not easy, because traditionally the tenure decision process is confidential. Fortunately, the Samoff controversy has already received so much publicity—most of it unfavorable to the department—that I was able to find five tenured faculty members who voted against tenure for Samoff who would talk with me freely about their decisions as long as I would not quote them by name.

What I heard from one of these faculty members after another who voted against tenure for Samoff was that they did so because his research did not meet the department's high standards. These were not for the most part, casual assessments of Samoff's work. In all, over ten members of the department read every word he had published. Some spent many hours studying what he had produced—typical of the rigorous critique made of any tenure candidate's work in the department.

On the basis of my conversations with those who voted against tenure for Samoff, I think it is fair to say that a substantial core within the department truly *believes* Samoff's research thus far does not predict a bright future for him as a researcher.

I will quote at length from my discussion with one such faculty member. Much of his criticism of Samoff's work was repeated by others I talked to.

"In Samoff's case, there was a question of just how much productivity we had seen from a man who had been around for six years. The department usually talks about a "second strike capacity." Normally you'll find someone up for tenure has a major statement in the form of a book that is already up and around. But there must also be some real indication that there is another major piece of analysis—the "second strike"—underway. It need not be published yet, but some reasonable probability must exist that another major statement is in the offing—typically if not on a totally different problem, at least representing a substantial extension of the problems addressed in the first major work.

"The 'second strike' criterion is reasonable enough in a major department which is thinking about tenure. You're talking about a thirty-year, million-dollar investment in a person, and you want to protect yourself against putting on tenured people who are going to go to sleep. The notion of having another major work finished or on the way represents some assurance that you're not going to hire somebody who is a sleeper instead of a doer.

"In Samoff's case, much of what we had on the record was material that was basically drawn from the PhD dissertation period. His work lacked a strong 'second strike.'

"There was also the question of whether or not the quality of what he had done was up to what you would call the standards of excellence we would like to see in a person's work. There were all sorts of problems with the kind of analy-

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sis that was presented in the last part of his book and most of the articles drawn from the book. Those were the sorts of issues we talked about at length in discussing his case because they represented difficulties in analytic style. Much of what Joel wanted to answer couldn't be answered by the research one could perceive him to be undertaking.

"For instance, questions about the interaction between a local community and a national government on taxation were addressed in ways that never allowed the analyst to know whether or not the community cited was similar or different from other communities in the country. In short, there was a lot of talk, but little supporting evidence."

I asked this person to respond to the charge that most departmental members in effect had theoretical blinders on which prevented them from appreciating his work with its Marxist perspective. He answered, "I know he thinks he's being persecuted. But in the discussions among the faculty, several people said that not only did the later [more Marxist] analytic framework seem more appropriate to the problem he chose, but it also seemed much more exciting.

"I know there are those in the department who are not terribly comfortable with his approach. On the other hand, I think there are many more in the department who would be very excited by having someone carry out the kind of investigation Samoff at some points talks about carrying off."

Was the Samoff tenure decision difficult for the faculty to make, I asked? Yes it was, he responded. "There was a split in the department's Executive Committee precisely because some people gave greater weight to his teaching and service record than they did to his research record. The reason he didn't get sufficient support for tenure was that the rest of the department gave greater weight to his research record than to his teaching and service. But it was a hairy call. It was very, very tough. Bear in mind, he's got an outstanding teaching record. If he's not the best teacher we've ever had, he's pretty close to being the best. You don't just dump that. It was a very, very tough thing for people to wrestle with."

"I've seen Samoff's external reviews. They're from the top African scholars from some of the best universities in the country. All of them were enthusiastic about his work . . .."

How much does an excellent teaching record really count for in the tenure decision? "I think a really excellent teaching record can carry you a long way only if there's sufficient reason to believe that the direction of your research productivity is going to be useful. In this department it's been very difficult simply to promote teachers. The department views itself as a place which generates new knowledge, and it views teaching on the basis of self-generated new knowledge as the highest form of teaching. Teaching somebody else's work is not what we would regard as outstanding teaching."

So there were serious questions about his research? "Oh, quite serious. As far as I know, nobody who defended the idea of promoting Samoff defended him on the grounds of his research. The defense was entirely on the grounds of his teaching and service. Had he been a normal teacher, then I think his case would have been very simple."

The "leading edge" criterion

ANOTHER political science professor I talked to who voted against Samoff's tenure did not feel that the quality of Samoff's post-book research even came close to meeting departmental standards. In this person's opinion, after Samoff adopted a Marxian approach for studying African communities, ". . . there was a change in the depth of analytical quality. It became much more issue-oriented toward political ends rather than being an analysis of a subject by methods that reach a conclusion on the basis of evidence. His works started in a sense with a conclusion and ended up with what he started with, with some information in between. Regardless of one's theoretical position, this, to my mind, is just not good scholarship."

One senior faculty member I talked to put the department's decision against Samoff's tenure in this perspective: "The real crunch in a tenure decision, particularly in times of contraction (which we are certainly in) is when one has to ask, 'Is this stuff really leading edge, is it really path-breaking? And that's a really tough criterion. Even though I think my personal response to Joel's work was more positive than most, I would have trouble answering that in the positive in Joel's case. Particularly his post-book material. This is not to say that his work is stupid or wrongheaded. It's perfectly decent work, but it's not exciting. You have to ask yourself, are the people outside the very narrow area of African studies, people in broader realms of political science, going to pick up on this stuff and say, 'Gee, that's a great set of ideas, and we really want to push 'em over here.' After all, work like that is done here, and in considerable profusion. I think one could say that Joel is having a positive impact which approximates what I'm talking about with the African specialists, with maybe a ripple or two outside, but I don't think it carries far enough to push him over the top."

Every faculty member I talked to who voted against awarding Samoff tenure had basically the same view: Samoff's research did not meet minimum department standards for quality. It's a hard explanation for Samoff supporters to refute. Who is better qualified than department members to decide whether Samoff's work is "leading edge"?

An insider's view of tenure decisions

BUT THERE ARE department members who take strong exception to this conclusion. One such person, who asked to remain anonymous "so that I can continue to live with my colleagues" has had considerable administrative experience in the department over the years. As a part of the department's research mainstream, he has no particular reason to favor Samoff's work. But in his view, Samoff should have gotten tenure, but failed for a couple of possible reasons.

First, this person feels that Samoff's unorthodox Marxian approach prevented

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many of the faculty from fairly evaluating his research. One factor he considers a strong support for the case to give Samoff tenure is the quality of his external reviews. External reviews are written assessments of a tenure candidate's published work by nationally-recognized specialists in the person's field of study. They are specifically requested by the department to aid in making a tenure decision. "I've seen Samoff's external reviews," he told me. "They're from the top African scholars from some of the best universities in the country. All of them were enthusiastic about his work, some calling it some of the most outstanding work being done in the field today. In my opinion, these people are important judges of his work and can't be taken lightly, which is how I'm afraid most of my colleagues took them."

(One reason the external reviews of Samoff's work did not have a strong influence on the majority of the faculty, I was told by those who voted against tenure, is that the vast majority of external reviews for the department's tenure candidates are extremely positive. As one put it, "The question is not really one of, 'Is this person outstanding?' Practically all the people we review for tenure are outstanding. So most external reviews don't tell us anything that we don't already know.")

Furthermore, the anonymous Samoff supporter in the department said, he is skeptical of the claim that faculty appointments are always dispassionate, professional decisions. He told of the time years back when the department was looking for a top scholar on the Soviet Union and the department invited Zbigniew Brzezinski, then teaching at Columbia, to visit the department so that faculty members could consider making him an offer. The chairman of the department at that time, who didn't like Brzezinski, took him aside and told him that under no circumstances would he be offered a job here. The chairman then proceeded to turn around and offer the position to a personal friend far inferior academically to Brzezinski. This is hardly a typical case, I was told, but things like that can happen.

The same person feels that Samoff was particularly hurt by being an isolate among the political science faculty here. "Within a department," he explained, "there forms an academic community of close colleagues who are also often close friends. I've seen it time and time again that when a new assistant professor gradually becomes integrated into that academic community and his research is adequate, then he gets tenure. Joel wasn't a part of the academic community here in political science. He was an outsider, not close to maybe more than one member of the department. I think that may well have hurt him when it came to the tenure decision."

But what of the many criticisms of Samoff's research I've heard from the faculty, I asked? You're not suggesting that they're making it up?

"No, they're not making it up," he replied. "It's just that a person can be motivated to look a lot more critically at one person's work than at another's. And you can *always* find something to criticize in someone's work. I just think the department made a mistake—that it's losing someone who's a real asset to both the department and the community."

Unconscious faculty demands

PROFESSOR ALI MAZRUI is another person on the political science faculty who feels strongly that Samoff was not given a fair hearing by his colleagues. Mazrui is the department's only other African-area scholar besides

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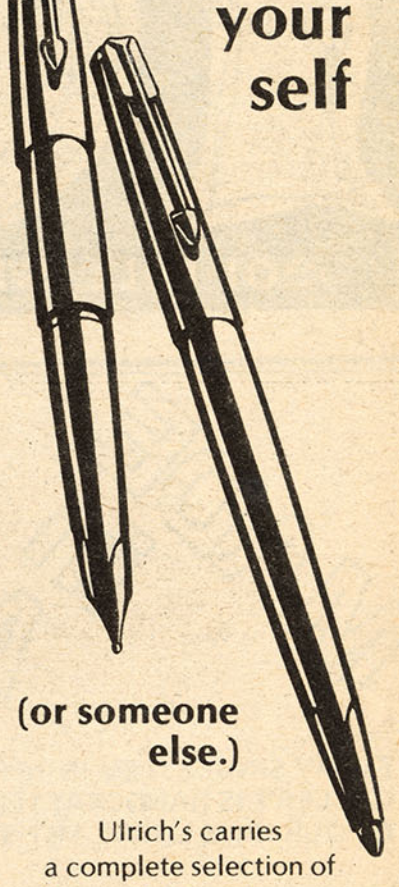

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"Joel does clash personality-wise with a number of people. Curiously, he clashes more with fellow white people than with non-white people."

Samoff. He is a Kenyan by birth, and his views on African politics receive worldwide attention.

In the departmental discussion of the Samoff tenure decision, he pleaded with his colleagues to keep Samoff. Mazrui told me, "I do believe Samoff is quite solid in his African work. The judgment against his work was made by people who knew nothing about the study of African politics, or very little. The great majority of people familiar with African politics is impressed by his work."

Mazrui also feels his colleagues, perhaps unconsciously, demanded more of Samoff than they would have of someone whose research approach was more congenial to them. "The methodological factor influenced those who feel that political science should be studied in a particular way," he charges. "Many in this department are quantitative behavioral scientists. Many of them do not regard class analysis, which is what Samoff used, as a proper political science paradigm. If most in a department are suspicious of class analysis, you have to be really, really outstanding to get tenure, whereas if you belong to a school of analysis which has legitimacy in advance, you can be moderately competent and get tenure."

Mazrui also referred to Samoff's departmental activism and the resulting friction between Samoff and some of the senior faculty members in the department: "Joel does clash personality-wise with a number of people. Curiously, he clashes more with fellow white people than with non-white people. He also clashes more with scholars older than he than with either his peers or people younger than he."

It particularly bothers Mazrui, who is director of the U-M's Center for Afro-American and African Studies, that the university is losing a white faculty member who could work well with blacks at the Center. "Samoff is the only white colleague at the Center who is really very actively involved," he said. "In addition, he relates very well, without ostentation, without playing to the gallery. He's at ease with people of other cultures. The Center was born in an atmosphere of great race consciousness, so now, to have a white colleague who is widely acceptable, is in my opinion a major turning point toward making the Center more than an exclusively black club on campus. It is certainly going to be difficult to find someone of his value to replace him."

Samoff and university values

WHETHER OR NOT Samoff deserved tenure, his case has become a disturbing symbol for many. Some see Samoff's firing as an example of how the tenure system, created to insure freedom for scholars to follow their investigations wherever they might lead, can turn into a tool for pruning away unconventional scholars, thus limiting the diversity of thought the system was designed to protect.

Others see in the Samoff controversy unusually clear-cut evidence that the U-M, no matter what its officials may say, is more committed to strengthening the quality of its research than its teaching. If the university really cared, some say, why would it fire such an outstanding teacher as Samoff?

The answer is simple: research weighs a lot more heavily than teaching excellence in most tenure decisions. But if one quarrels with the priority given research, the dispute should not center on the U-M political science department, but on virtually all the major departments in the world. An elite faculty rarely coalesces by accident. Department members spend many hours trying to lure the most talented scholars in their discipline, and they would only be handicapped if the search had to be for someone equally excellent at teaching *and* research.

Samoff supporters can also argue that some members of the political science department put a magnifying glass to Samoff's work when what was more appropriate was a broader view of its significance within its research area. But even assuming this is true, Joel Samoff is not alone. In today's academic job market, such allegedly unjust assessments of a person's work are undoubtedly happening all across the country. As one faculty member put it, given the amount of competition these days for academic positions, the evaluation of a tenure candidate's work has become "a very, very subtle process." More than anything else, the Samoff controversy dramatizes the stress placed on the tenure system when academic talent abounds and university faculties must decline in size. □

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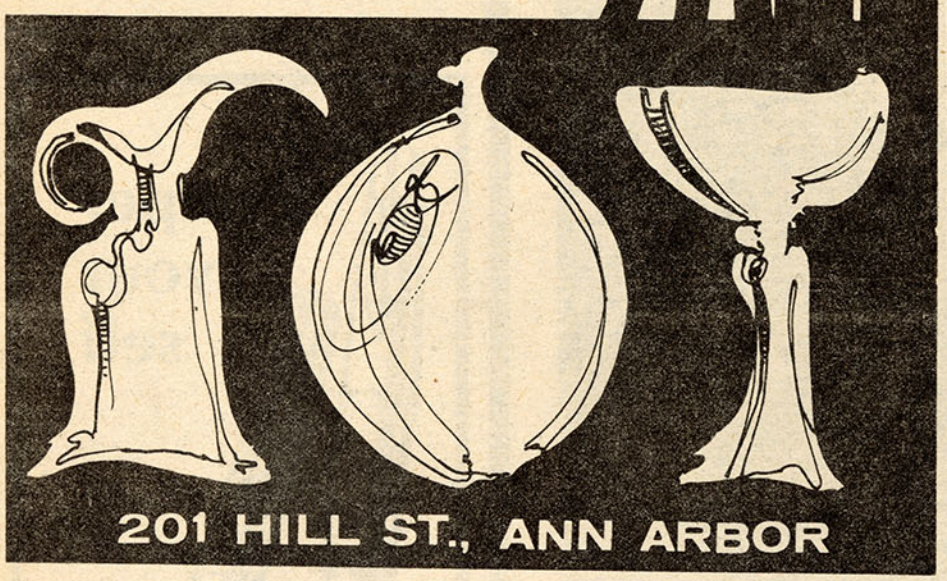

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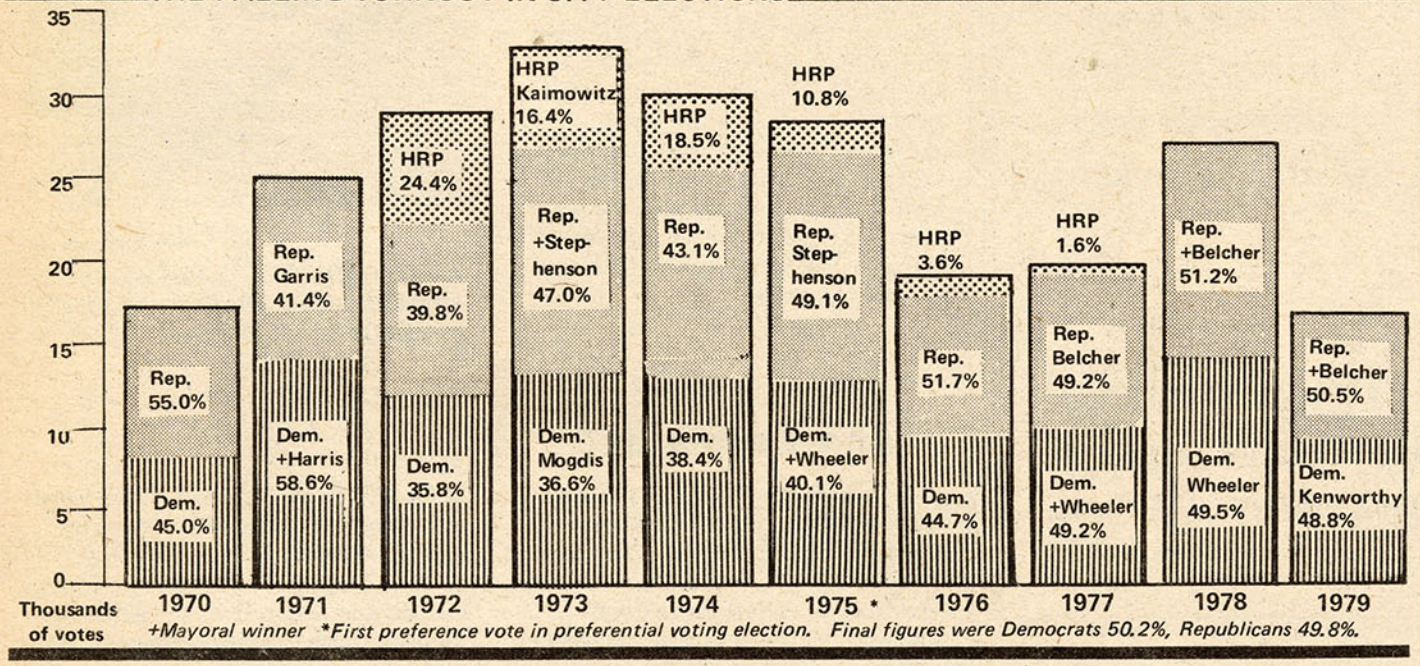
City Election Post-Mortem: Apathy Wins

By Tom Wieder

Why Vote City-Wide? The Fourth Ward Always Backs the Winner.

IN THE DECEMBER issue of *The Observer*, we reported that "as the Fourth Ward goes, so goes the city," and that was certainly the case this April. Belcher's city-wide vote share was 51.22%. His Fourth Ward share was 51.28%, a difference of .06%. These figures have prompted a novel suggestion. Since Democrats always win the First and Second Wards, Republicans the Third and Fifth, and the Fourth Ward votes just like the entire city, why not conduct city elections solely in the Fourth, saving thousands of dollars every year?□

THE FALLING TURNOUT IN CITY ELECTIONS



*+Mayoral winner *First preference vote in preferential voting election. Final figures were Democrats 50.2%, Republicans 49.8%.*

Graph by Debbie Snider

The Declining Turnout Tells the Story

REPUBLICAN MAYOR Lou Belcher hailed his victory in April 2nd's city election as a vote of confidence in his and his party's policies. More accurately, the election was a victory for apathy, and Democratic candidate James Kenworthy was the victim. Belcher's percentage of the vote actually declined in 46 of the city's 67 precincts, including 37 of the city's 48 predominantly non-student precincts, compared to last year's figures.

Belcher won by being the beneficiary of the lowest voter turnout since 1968, a time before student voting, the 18-year-old vote, and city population increases swelled the voter rolls. City-wide turnout was down a whopping 32% from last year, but that doesn't tell the whole story. Turnout in nineteen predominantly student precincts was down *48%* from last year. Democrats regularly get 80% of the vote in those precincts. On the other hand, absentee votes, which are 80% Republican, were down only 16%.

The following examples illustrate Kenworthy's problem. Precinct 4-2, the Lansdowne area, gave Belcher his largest plurality last year, 528 votes. Its turnout declined only 15% this year. Precinct 1-11, which straddles Sunset Road, gave Democrat Al Wheeler his largest plurality in 1978, 312 votes. Its turnout was down 37% this year.

Among the reasons for the low turnout were the lack of ballot proposals, which seem to be the only things that attract student voters; the absence of well-defined issues; and the campaign's low visibility. The Belcher and Kenworthy campaigns spent almost nothing on advertising, and local media, notably *The Ann Arbor News*, gave the race only sparse coverage.

Belcher may have insured his own re-election last November. Members of the student-backed Public Interest Research Group in Michigan (PIRGIM) were circulating petitions to put a proposal on the April ballot providing for only a small fine for 18-20-year-olds arrested for illegal drinking. This followed the increase in the drinking age from 18 to 21. Such a proposal would have greatly increased student turnout. Perhaps sensing this, Belcher succeeded in having an ordinance passed which instituted the low fine. The petition drive was halted, and the students stayed away from the polls in droves. □

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Punch Card Voting Takes Some Punches Itself

PUNCH CARD voting received mixed reviews, at best, in its first major appearance in Ann Arbor. Precinct voters voiced few complaints, but some elderly absentee voters had trouble using the new system. City Clerk Al Vollbrecht was happy with the system, but severe criticism came from the leadership of both political parties. They feel the system has too much room for error and calls for the exercise of too much individual discretion. Ballots are handled numerous times before counting, which gives the appearance, if not the reality, of security problems. On election night, precinct workers had to use magnifying glasses to decide if some ballots should be counted. They had to determine if pieces of "chad", the part of the ballot card which is punched out, were hanging by one, two or three corners, the test of whether a vote is counted.

Mayor Belcher has appointed a nine-member committee to recommend whether the city should keep the new system or return to voting machines. The outcome, like most city elections, will probably be close. □

Andy Freeberg

Election official Ulrich Stoll was one of several election workers who resorted to a magnifying glass to evaluate ballots.

Whither Kenworthy?

GIVEN the short memories of Ann Arbor voters, Jamie Kenworthy (he became "James" for the election) may soon be forgotten, but he won't be gone. He expects to receive his doctorate in American Culture in August and will be teaching two freshman writing seminars at the University in the fall. Other possibilities include developing a course in local government problems, writing a book, and doing some community work outside Ann Arbor. Does he plan to run for office again? "I'm enjoying not considering it for a while." □

Whither the Democrats?

AS IMPORTANT as this year's election was, the next two city elections will be even more crucial. The council members elected in 1980 and 1981 will redraw the city's ward boundaries in 1981 or 1982, and will probably determine who will control city government for the 1980's. What must each party do to ensure that it is the party which redraws the ward map?

The Republicans should just continue doing what they've been doing for the last several years: conduct low-visibility campaigns designed to identify loyal Republicans and get them to the polls. Surveys and November election results indicate that a majority of the city's voters are Democrats; but the Republicans have used the low visibility strategy to build and maintain a Council majority.

Democrats can look for votes in two places. The students will vote Democratic, if they vote at all. Ballot proposals, especially if they deal with rental housing, excite them; candidates don't. Kenworthy, himself a graduate student, was not able to generate a respectable turnout. Democrats might win the April election in December, by qualifying a housing proposal for the city ballot.

The relatively strong showings of Democratic City Council candidates Halley Faust and Carol Wallace in the heavily Republican Third and Fifth Wards show that there are votes to be won by Democrats among the more traditional homeowner voters.

Hence, the following Democratic victory scenario: put a proposal on the ballot to attract student voters, and they won't care too much who the candidate is. Run candidates for Mayor and Fourth Ward City Council who fit the Republican mold, at least in appearance: over 35, homeowner, business or professional person.

Two possible Democratic mayoral candidates are already surveying the field. Former Second Ward Councilman and fabric store owner Bob Faber will soon be named Ann Arbor Democratic Party Chairman, and is reportedly interested in the mayor's job. Second Ward Councilwoman Leslie Morris also makes no secret of the fact that she wouldn't mind being mayor. □

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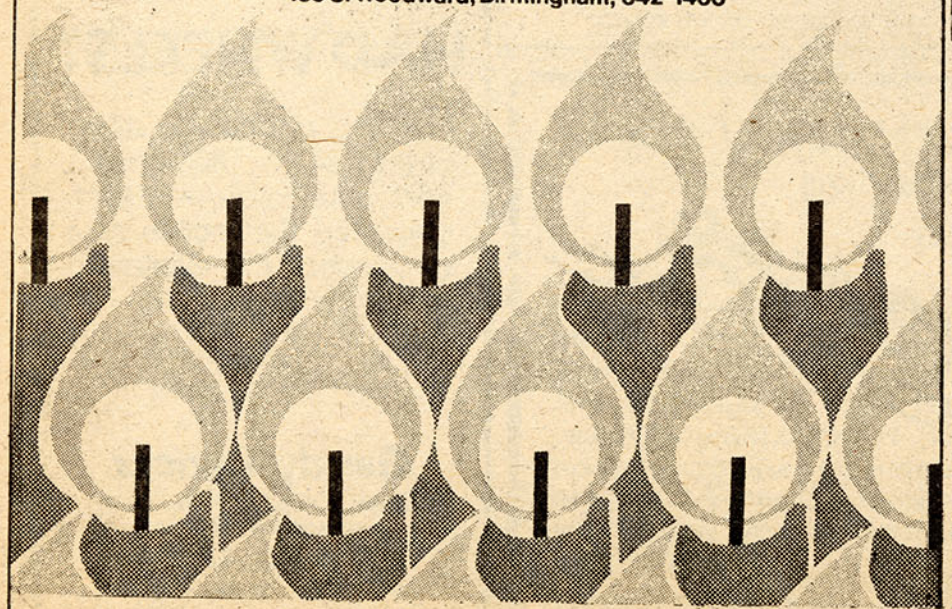

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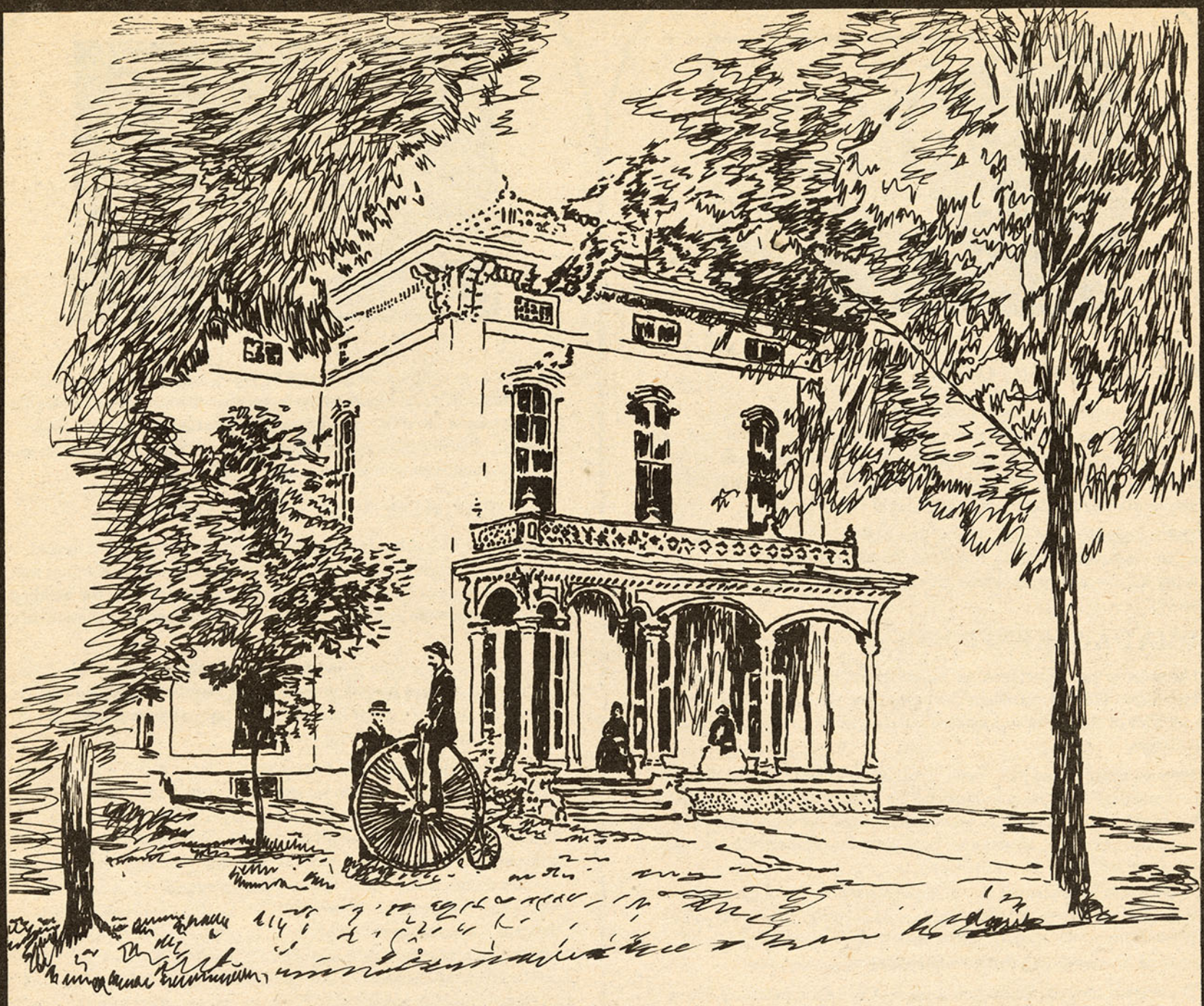

Old is Beautiful

Questions and Answers on Historic Preservation for Ann Arbor Property Owners

A Special Supplement Sponsored by Ann Arbor Historic District Commission with Special Thanks to:
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WHAT'S GOING ON?

Have you noticed how older houses and stores are being fixed up lately? Businessmen in our downtown are removing plastic storefronts and cleaning the paint off old brick walls. Many homeowners are restoring the crumbled "gingerbread" on their front porches, and whole neighborhoods are shining with fresh paint and new pride.

This is happening not only here in Ann Arbor, but all over America: in San Francisco, Portland, Cleveland, Provincetown, Key West, and many hundreds of other towns and cities. Have you ever wondered why?

WHAT AWAKENED US?

For decades most of us took old buildings for granted. Many thought they were outdated, unfashionable, even ugly. In the 50's and 60's we tore a lot of them down to make space for new and supposedly better buildings.

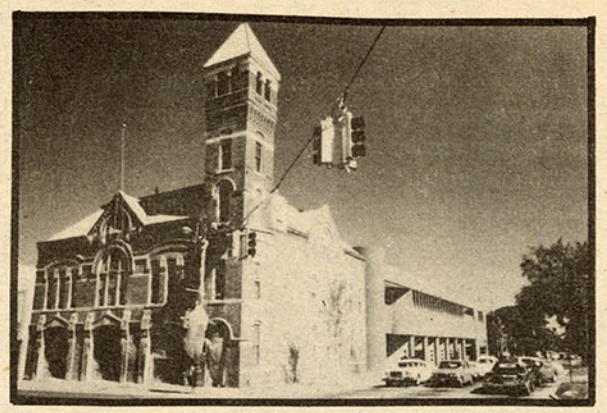
Then we began to see that "new" is not always "better"; that many new buildings soon begin to look shabby next to their older neighbors. We found that we missed the gables, the towers, the special details that made each building unique. Even worse, we realized that the fabric of our cities had been badly torn.

As we began to appreciate those "unfashionable" older buildings—for their solid craftmanship, their beauty, and for what they could tell us about our past—we realized that a healthy community must have a sense of continuity, a harmonious blending of old and new.

The current surge of restoration work in Ann Arbor and other towns demonstrates the new values placed on older buildings.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION– IS IT JUST OLD BUILDINGS?

In many cases, when you fix up old houses you are preserving a neighborhood, a way of life, a *quality of living.* Most people now understand that old houses, mature trees, pleasant parks, well-maintained schools—



all close to downtown—add up to a highly desirable urban living environment. More and more home buyers are choosing older houses and getting caught up in the excitement of restoration and neighborhood renewal. Often they find that historic preservation makes good financial sense and gives a lot of deep-down satisfaction.

YOUR HOUSE MAY BE HISTORIC!

Almost any Ann Arbor building built before 1925 is likely to have at least some historic value. Some have acquired it because of things that happened there or famous people who are connected with the building. Others are valuable as well-preserved examples of earlier architectural fashions.

You can find out if your home or other building has historic or architectural significance by calling the Historic District Commission office at 761-4510, or you can stop in any weekday and browse through our library. There is no charge for our services.

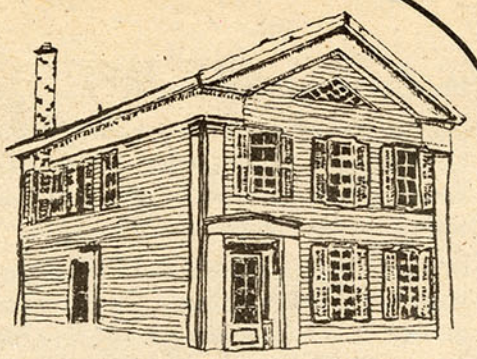
Even if your building is not of great historic interest as a whole, it may have a special feature such as woodwork or a fireplace which is well worth preserving. Careful rehabilitation and good maintenance of a structure will help to support other efforts nearby and help to

Old neighborhoods are an important part of our heritage, valuable both to their residents and to the rest of the community. Even where buildings are not of great importance individually, together they create a pleasant atmosphere that we call a 'sense of place'. This is a quality well worth protecting, as in Ann Arbor's Old West Side, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as being designated an Ann Arbor Historic District. There are several other historic neighborhoods in our city, and your house may be important as a part of one of them.

I'VE GOT THE HOUSE RIGHT HERE. . .

All through history, architectural styles have changed. New social and economic conditions, new fashions and ideals have found expression in the design of homes, stores, public buildings. Each historic period is thus characterized by a particular style or styles. Look at these styles—all found in Ann Arbor—and see if you recognize your house among them!

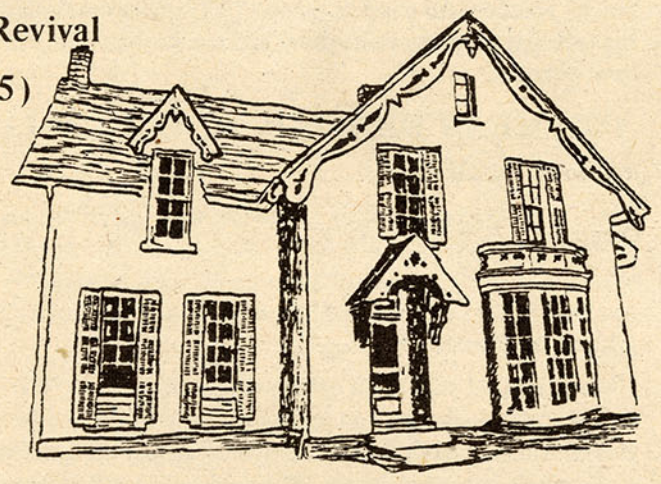
Greek Revival
(1824-60)



Ann Arbor's oldest buildings are in the Greek Revival style, nationally popular at that time. Builders copied the classic forms of ancient Greek temples in order to express the democratic ideals of the new nation.

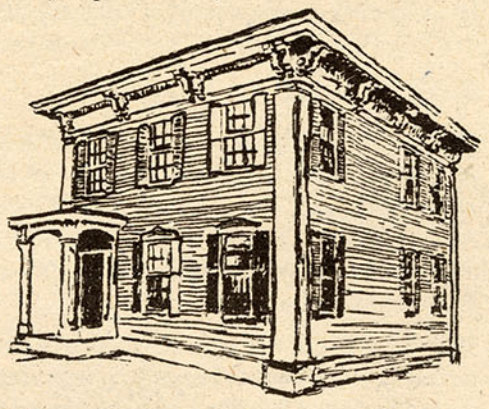
Pedimented gables facing the street, windows symmetrically arranged, and an overall simplicity and attention to proportion characterize these buildings, many of which still remain.

Gothic Revival
(1845-75)



Though partially overlapping the Greek Revival in time, the Gothic Revival style was as romantic and decorative as the Greek Revival was formal and restrained. Steeply pitched roofs, and lots of "gingerbread," especially in the gables, help to identify this style. It is rare in Ann Arbor.

Italianate
(1855-80)

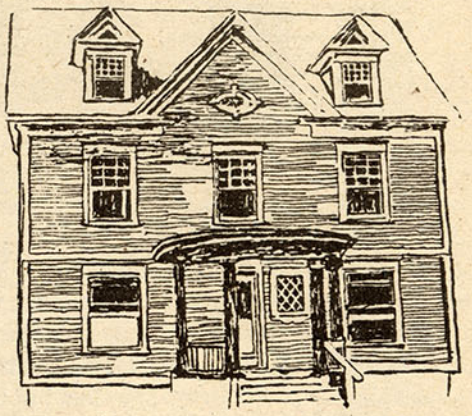


This style often combined both the formal and the picturesque elements of the two preceding styles, while adding new touches such as rounded window arches, often with "eyebrows" above, bracketed eaves, and, in some instances, tall square towers. It was a style suited both to residential and to commercial buildings, and there are many fine examples in the downtown.

Queen Anne
(1875-1900)

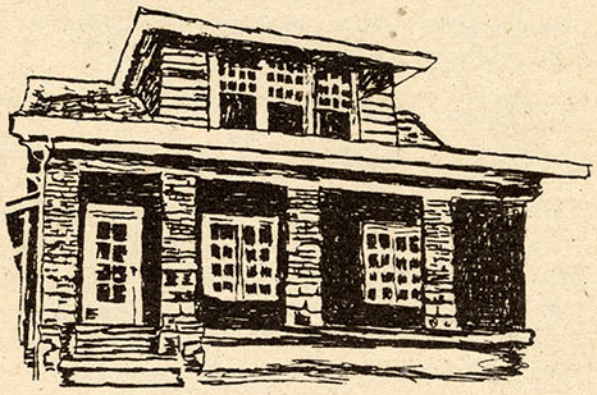
Queen Anne was also an eclectic combination of previous elements and forms, but was predominately a residential style. It was popular during the late Victorian period which saw great residential growth in Ann Arbor. Consequently the character of most old neighborhoods is formed largely by Queen Anne houses. Usually considered the most typically "Victorian," they have asymmetrical floor plans, rich with towers, gables, porches, ornamental shingle work, and steeply pitched roofs.

Colonial Revival
(1895-1930)



Popularized by the "White City" of the Chicago World's Fair in 1893, this style also uses classical details such as pediments and columns, but the proportions are different from Greek Revival and the details are more elaborate. Palladian windows are often a distinctive feature.

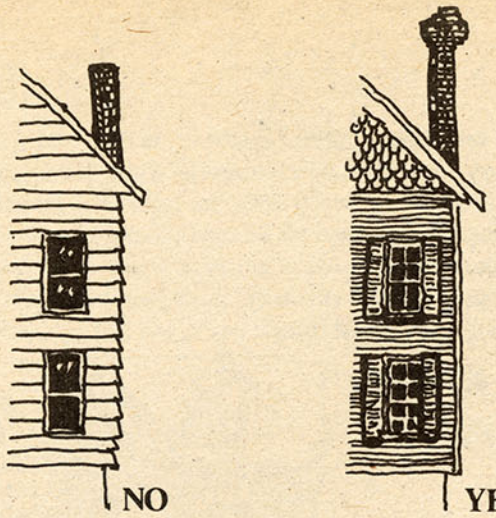
Bungalow
(1900-20)



Buildings in this style are usually small houses with deep-set porches and large second-story dormer windows facing the street. This modest style was very popoular in Ann Arbor.

YES! I WANT TO PRESERVE MY OLD HOUSE/ NEIGHBORHOOD/ BUILDING! WHAT DO I DO?

1. Before doing anything which will change the exterior appearance of your home, get help. More lovely homes have lost their historical significance through well-meaning but inappropriate "improvements" than from any other cause. The Historic District Commission staff will be glad to put you in touch with people who have done the sort of work you are planning and can advise you about possible professional help—help which does not have to cost you anything.
2. Often it is important to avoid additions which reduce the front or side yard open spaces. In many neighborhoods, the special quality that gives the area its character is derived in large measure from the existing rhythm of buildings and open spaces. If you need more space, consider adding on to the back of your house instead.
3. You should attempt to retain original materials whenever possible. While some old-fashioned materials cannot be obtained today at reasonable cost, it is surprising how many are still available. If new materials are necessary, try to choose something which matches the original as nearly as possible. The Commission has several periodicals and pamphlets which may be useful in your search.
4. Avoid removing or covering original architectural features of the house, such as siding, cornices, brackets, shutters, porches and chimneys. These are the things which give it special character.
5. Take a look at your siding. If the house was covered with asbestos shingles, perhaps there is some good, original clapboard underneath. Many a home has been successfully upgraded merely by removing the



NO YES

unattractive "improvements" of a former owner. Think of the fun of discovering buried treasure!

6. If you feel that the need to save energy requires aluminum storm windows and doors, use painted aluminum rather than the silver. Nice wood storm/screen doors are available at building supply stores.

7. Make every effort to avoid adding inappropriate details. Victorian houses and metal or Fiberglas awnings just don't mix.

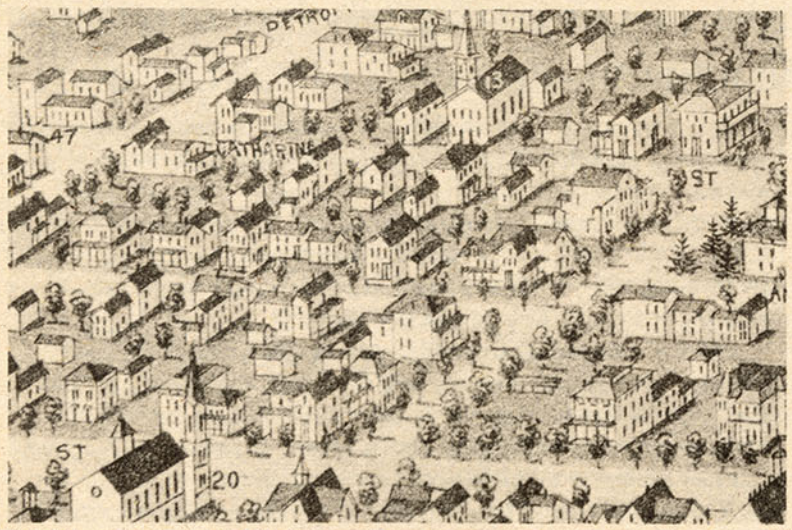
8. Try to find the most inconspicuous locations for such items as television antennae and air-conditioners that you feel are absolutely necessary.

9. Don't forget the yard. Use plants, trees, fencing, walkways, drives and lights which are appropriate to the character of your home and surrounding neighborhood. Here again the Commission may have some helpful information.

SHOULD I SEEK "HISTORIC DISTRICT" DESIGNATION FOR MY PROPERTY?

There are several reasons why you might request official Historic District status. One of them we already mentioned: the mutual support and security which neighbors in a district receive from knowing that they are all committed to the historic quality of their street. No one is going to spoil it for everybody by jarring modernization of his home's exterior, or by ill-considered demolition.

Historic Districts are not always neighborhoods, however. They can consist of a single historic house or building—or of scattered buildings. If you have a fine old home and have worked hard to maintain or restore its historic character, you might request Historic District status as a way to insure that your careful work will not be undone by thoughtless future owners.



WHAT IS A HISTORIC DISTRICT?

A committee, including property owners and residents of the area and city ordinance. This ordinance is the basic tool for preservation.

A committee, including property owners and residents and members of the Historic District Commission, decides whether a group of buildings or an area is worthy of preservation and what are its most important features. After holding a public hearing, the committee recommends to City Council an ordinance which would control changes to the outsides of buildings in the area. Appropriate procedures and standards are spelled out and provide guidelines for later review by the Historic District Commission.

The first three Historic Districts the City Council adopted were for Division Street, Liberty Street, and the Old West Side. If you would like more information about any of our Historic Districts, please contact the Historic District Commission.

Of course, historic preservation is not limited to protected districts. Many beautiful and authentic restorations are being done throughout the city. The Commission is available to encourage, advise, or answer questions from any one who wishes to restore an old building, whether it is in a "district" or not.

IS THIS A FAD OR WILL IT LAST?

Interest in historic preservation and neighborhood conservation has been growing steadily. The establishment nation-wide of large numbers of legally protected historic districts and landmarks suggests that preservation will be an important aspect of public policy—as well as private practice—for years to come. This conclusion is reinforced by the fact that property values have increased substantially in most historic districts.

YOU MEAN HISTORIC HOUSES SELL FOR MORE MONEY?

Yes! There is a good market for houses with historic character, even where restoration may be needed. Such houses become even more desirable when they are part of a historic district, because the buyer knows that the neighbors will share his interest in the beauty and integrity of their homes.

Historic District status will discourage certain kinds of buyers: land speculators, developers, and people with the itch to modernize. However, the historic designation will help to attract the kind of buyer who really appreciates your house. The designation will definitely enhance the value of the house by certifying its architectural quality. Generally speaking, Historic District designation has resulted in increased property values.

In addition to improved market value, certain tax benefits are available to owners who restore their properties in historic districts.

MAY WE HELP YOU?

The Ann Arbor Historic District Commission is the agency of city government which promotes historic preservation of all kinds and which administers designated historic districts. Its office is in the Kempf House, 312 South Division Street, Ann Arbor. The Commission's staff is available weekdays at 761-4510 to answer questions about any aspect of preservation.

The staff will also be happy to put you in contact with others who have carried out preservation projects on their own buildings. You will discover a lively and friendly network of people like yourself, eager to share their discoveries. They can tell you where to find authentic building materials or antique doorknobs, and can suggest contractors who have turned out good work. You will soon find that preservation is a very popular cause in which the participants get to know and like each other and cooperate to improve our urban environment.

ANN ARBOR HISTORIC BUILDINGS

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

A handy pocket-sized guide book to Ann Arbor's landmarks. Photographs and stories on over seventy marked buildings, plus reference guide to architectural styles and periods. $3.75 at local bookstores, the Kempf House, or $4.35 by mail order from the Ann Arbor Historical Foundation, 312 South Division, Ann Arbor 48104.

Guidebooks Reveal The County's Charms

Recent years have seen Americans become far more interested in their own everyday environments than they had been since the 1930's. One result is a growing number of local guidebooks. We counted no less than seven publications dealing with Ann Arbor and environs that are readily available and inexpensive. Four years ago there was only one around.

If you're new to town, or if you've lived within the comfortable cocoon of campus life, these booklets can surely expand your horizons. And even if you're an inveterate walker and Sunday driver who loves to explore back streets and nearby small towns, you'll discover places and things that will enrich your awareness of where you live in time and space.

By Mary Hunt

Footloose in Washtenaw: A Walker's Guide to Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County *(1976, published by the Ecology Center and edited by Joyce Bader and Donald Gray), 153 pp.; $3.00 at local bookstores and The Ecology Center, 417 Detroit Street, Ann Arbor, 48104 ($3.60 by mail to include postage and handling).*

A sturdily-bound pocket-size volume containing maps and descriptions for twelve walks in natural areas within an hour of Ann Arbor, plus eleven in-town walks. Some errors in fact and implication occurred when the manuscripts from sixteen different writers were substantially rewritten without rechecking, so not all the fascinating tidbits in this book are entirely accurate. Still, the book is an excellent means of acquainting yourself with places, sights, and insights you might well miss otherwise. Did you know, for instance, that Burns Park was once the county fairground, with the site of the racetrack still marked by the remains of a double row of elms and the former stable now converted to the Burns Park Senior Citizens Shelter? Are you familiar with the spectacular views of town from Cedar Bend Drive on the Broadway Hill, from Sunset Road at the top of Spring Street, and from Wurster Park at Mosely and Third? Have you walked down the picturesque winding lanes off Geddes Avenue just past the Arb, with their steep terrain and a varied mixture of quaint cottages and stylish contemporary homes? Did you know there are five extensive wooded areas within or just outside the city of Ann Arbor—the Arboretum, Eberwhite Woods, Birdhills Park, the Washtenaw Community College campus, and Saginaw Forest?

Especially helpful to naturalists are notes on plant and animal habitats—what areas are good for bird-watching or spring wildflowers, for instance. Other comments enable you to choose walks well suited to particular seasons.

Ann Arbor and the Huron River Valley: Take a Closer Look *(1979, by Janet Cohen, published by The Ecology Center), 36 pp., $1.25 at The Ecology Center, 417 Detroit (open 12 - 5 weekdays, 9:30 - 1 p.m. Saturdays).*

This informal and informative little book, hand-printed with many simple maps and illustrations, covers the four-mile stretch of the Huron River from Argo Park at the Broadway Bridge to the sewage treatment plant at Dixboro Road, past Gallup Park. A bike path (also for walking and jogging) goes along the entire route.

This booklet focusses on the interaction between the community of Ann Arbor and the river—on how we use the river, in all its manifold aspects. Fourteen short chapters deal with general topics like the urban ecosystem and water drainage and with specifics like muskrats, the city's water purification and sewage treatment plants, the initial development of the river by Anson Brown in 1829, the wet prairie habitat alongside one part of the river, river birdlife, and Ann Arbor's dams on the river.

Huron River Canoeing Maps *(published by Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority), free at area metroparks (the nearest are at Delhi Mills, Dexter, and Hudson Mills), or from the Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority, 3050 Penobscot Building, Detroit, Michigan 48226.*

This set of four detailed maps for canoeists covers the entire Huron River, from its origin west of Pontiac, through Kensington Metropark past Portage Lake to Dexter, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Belleville, and into Lake Erie south of Gibralter. Portages, canoe liveries, launching sites, toilets, water, and campgrounds are all noted, and roads and trestles over the river are marked on the map.

Bike Rides in Washtenaw County *(1977, published by Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission and Urban Area Transportation Study Committee), a portfolio of ten separate maps for ten separate bike rides plus an overall county map; free from the Washtenaw County Parks Commission office, 4133 Washtenaw in the County Service Center (hours 8:30 to 5 p.m. weekdays) or in the lobby of the County Building at Huron and Main.*

This attractive portfolio contains route maps and a detailed county map indicating all the county's marked bike paths as of 1977. Suggested routes range from short ten and fifteen-mile

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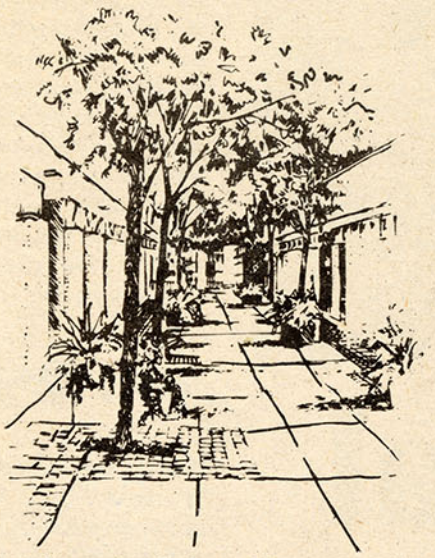

Come and visit us for help with your real estate needs. We are located on the courtyard of the Washtenaw Professional Building, 2350 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor.

We are a full service real estate office and members of the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors and *their* multi-list service. In addition, we have many years of experience in the Ann Arbor real estate market.

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trips around Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti to longer and more challenging rides to Whitmore Lake, Milan, Manchester, Dexter, Chelsea, and the northwestern part of the county. Each route map notes the terrain, traffic conditions, locations of bike shops, and points of interest along the way. Special historical notes accompany the trips to Chelsea, Dexter, Saline and Manchester.

This guide will help the cyclist avoid gravel trucks, killer hills, and other obstacles, while pointing out interesting and scenic routes.

A Guide to the Campus of The University of Michigan *(1979, published by The University of Michigan Press and written by Margo MacInnes with Wystan Stevens, under the direction of the U-M Campus Guide Committee), 129 pp., $3.95 at local bookstores. The price includes a separate illustrated campus map.*

Nearly every campus building is covered in this book in its own short article, some of which are perfunctory and some quite interesting. Current and past uses of buildings are always noted; most buildings are illustrated, and the circumstances surrounding the decision to erect a building are usually mentioned.

This guide is particularly good at pointing out the history of decorative details and ornaments to major buildings: the stone bas-reliefs on Angell Hall and the LSA Building, the myriad Gothic embellishments of the Law Quad; the Graduate Library's allegorical frescoes done for the 1893 Chicago World's Fair; the splendid ceilings within Martha Cook Dormitory; the Cube on Regents' Plaza.

Unfortunately the limitations of institutionally-sponsored publication have not been entirely avoided. Prominent donors have been mentioned more faithfully and consistently than architects, especially in the case of newer buildings, and in general, controversies have been avoided. Still, it's quite a useful book for those who want to acquaint themselves with the campus in detail.

Two appended essays are of particular charm and interest. "The Mineralogy and Petrology of The University of Michigan" by E. William Heinrich highlights the chief types of building stone used in campus buildings, the specimen rocks in front of the Geology Department's C. C. Little Building, and the amazing and little-known collection of colorful minerals and rocks that line the halls inside the building. Kenneth L. Jones's "Trees of the University of Michigan" tells the story of how history professor Andrew White, upon coming to Ann Arbor in 1857, was dismayed to find the U-M campus a barren pasture bereft of trees. On his own, he began planting trees on campus, thus forming the basis of an "academic grove" that persists today, though few trees from White's time have survived. Jones notes outstanding trees and unusual species to be seen on campus today as well.

Points of Interest at The University of Michigan *(1976, published by Historical Revitalizations Press and written by Donald E. Hunt), 64 pp., $1.50 at Borders, Ulrich's, the Michigan Union and League.*

This unpretentious little book is intended to inform the reader about major university buildings and leading tourist attractions on campus (such as the Exhibit Museum, Museum of Art, Burton Tower Carillon, Matthaei Botanical Gardens, and distinguished collections of books and artifacts). It also attempts to make vivid some of the largely-forgotten people and events associated with university buildings—Clarence Cook and his interest in erecting splendid Gothic buildings (the Law Quad and Martha Cook dormitory); the widespread interest of leading American institutions early in the 20th century in the once esoteric carillon; the long medical controversy between two branches of medicine which lead to a separate homeopathic hospital (now the ROTC's North Hall).

An interesting historical perspective on The University of Michigan traces its spectacular early growth and its later development. From a struggling college in a backward frontier state in 1841, Michigan had within twenty-five years become a big research-oriented university with an outstanding reputation.

Historic Buildings: Ann Arbor, Michigan *(1977, prepared by the Ann Arbor Historic District Commission's Historic Building Marker Subcommittee, written and researched largely by Marjorie Reade), 96 pp. with photographs of all 73 buildings; $3.75 at local bookstores or $4.35 by mail from the Historic District Commission, 312 South Division, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.*

This is a collection of well-researched historical notes on 73 historic buildings, along with a forward illustrating some styles of historic Ann Arbor architecture and an introduction surveying the city's historical development. The historical research is strong on the people aspect of old buildings—who built them, what their notable characteristics and line of work were—and on what happened to the buildings in succeeding years.

Rather than being intended as a comprehensive directory of Ann Arbor's historic buildings, this volume is a first step in compiling information on some of our noteworthy historic architecture. Because of the surveys and published sources from which selections were made, downtown buildings are overrepresented, and other areas (particularly the east side and northwest side) are underrepresented. The Historic District Commission plans to publish further, more inclusive volumes in the future. □

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSES

REGISTER May 2, 3, 4 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

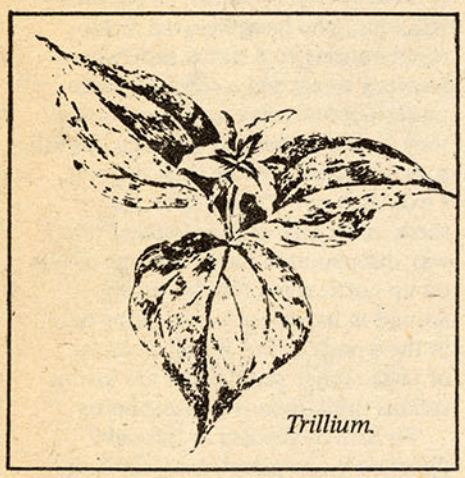
663-9415 MICHIGAN LANGUAGE CENTER 309 SOUTH STATE

The Sights of Spring

Where to see and how to enjoy springtime special events.

By Mary Hunt

Woodland Wildflowers



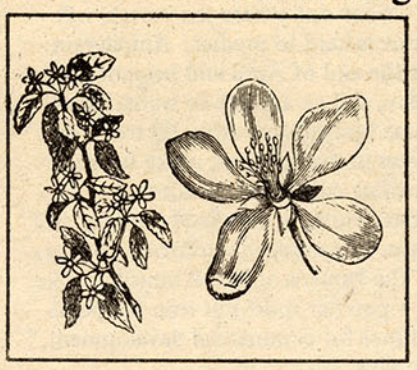
Trillium.

LATE APRIL to early May is usually the peak time to see spring-blooming woodland wildflowers. They blossom early to take advantage of the forest sunshine before the trees leaf out and form a green canopy overhead which blocks out the sun. Some good nearby places to see wildflowers are Birdhills Park (entrances are off Bird Road near Huron River Drive and off Newport Road just north of the M-14 overpass), the wooded parts of Nichols Arboretum and Washtenaw Community College campus, Eberwhite Woods on West Liberty between Ridgemoor and Dartmoor, and Park Lyndon on North Territorial Road.

The beautiful and threatened trillium can be seen in moist beech-maple woods at all those places. The umbrella-like Mayapple or mandrake prefers the higher, better-drained habitat typical of the oak-hickory forest, while the delicate Dutchman's britches, distinctive Jack-in-the-pulpit, and dogtooth violet (actually a lily) like moist or swampy areas.

There is a special wildflower garden at the U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens on Dixboro Road between Geddes and Plymouth Roads. There wildflowers are marked with identifying labels. First to bloom (in mid to late April) are hepatica (also called liverwort) and in swampy areas the marsh marigold. Wild phlox and wild geraniums can be seen in late May and June. Follow the red trail and the signs marked "Woodland Garden." Group tours (available to organizations for a fee) may be arranged through the Garden's receptionist.

Awixa and Its Flowering Crabs



A MAYTIME TRIP to Awixa Road, whose flowering crabapples are a spectacular sight, is an Ann Arbor tradition. The winding block-long street is lined with Hopa crabapples. They are alternate bearers—every other year they produce great masses of flowers. This year is a good one for them, so a walk along this pleasant street (which incidentally also has some noteworthy gardens of spring-flowering bulbs) might be worthwhile.

Awixa has its crabapples because Eli Gallup, long-time city parks superintendent, lived at 408 Awixa, on the corner of Geddes. In 1929 the pin oaks that had lined the street were attacked by borers and had to be removed. Gallup summoned his neighbors to join in a special project to finance collectively the planting of compact flowering trees along the street. The Hopa crab was the choice—a single-blossomed, fragrant tree about twenty feet high, with fruit about ½ inch in diameter. In recent years poor pruning practice is said to have decreased the trees' amount of flowering.

Ann Arbor's west side also shows signs of Gallup's efforts. Hopa crabs are found on the periphery of Vets' Park along Jackson and Maple, and on Mount Pleasant, Redeemer, and Clague Streets. The School of Music on North Campus also has a collection of flowering crabs.

Normally crabapples flower in Mid-May; if this spring continues to be cold, they could be a little late.

Kathy Martin

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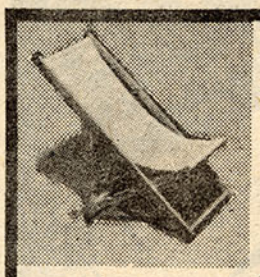

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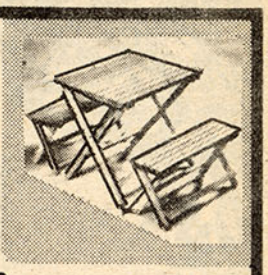

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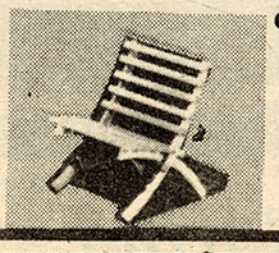

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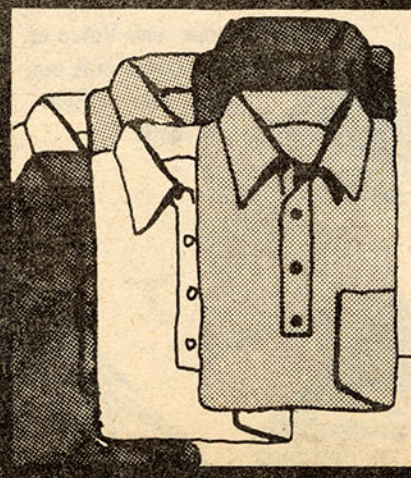

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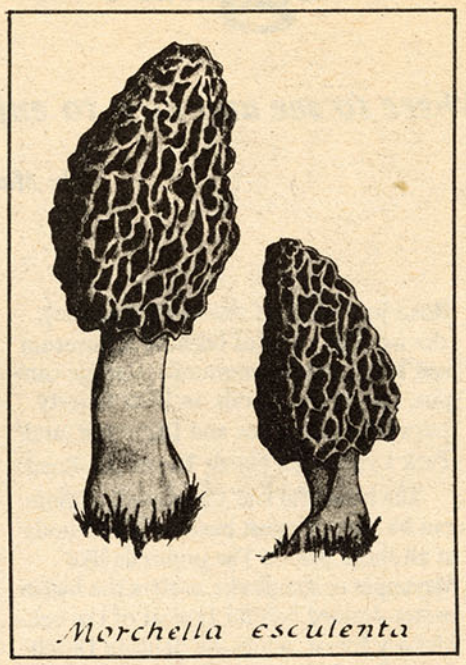
The Sights of Spring (continued)

The Elusive Morel

"MAY IS morel month," they say, and Michigan is known for morels—those distinctive and delicious mushrooms with pitted heads. Actually most of the plant consists of the network of mold threads that is in the ground; what people hunt is the fruit.

When and where the morels will fruit is hard to predict. Ample rain at the end of April and beginning of May, and an average to warm springtime temperature from 60 to 75 degrees in the daytime, make for good fruiting conditions, according to Dr. Alex Smith, retired U-M botanist and dean of American mushroom hunters. "The hazards of morel hunting make it a popular sport but ruin the possibilities for commercial development," he says.

The white morel (*morella esculenta*) found around Ann Arbor comes up in various places: beech-maple woods, less frequently in oak woods, on railroad banks, and sometimes even by the roadside. Good year-after-year locations are secrets closely guarded by those who know them. Alex and Helen Smith have found large crops of morels off the beaten paths in the Pinckney Recreation Area. With their crinkly light brown heads, morels are hard to distinguish from last year's leaves, so it takes good instincts and sharp eyes to spot them.



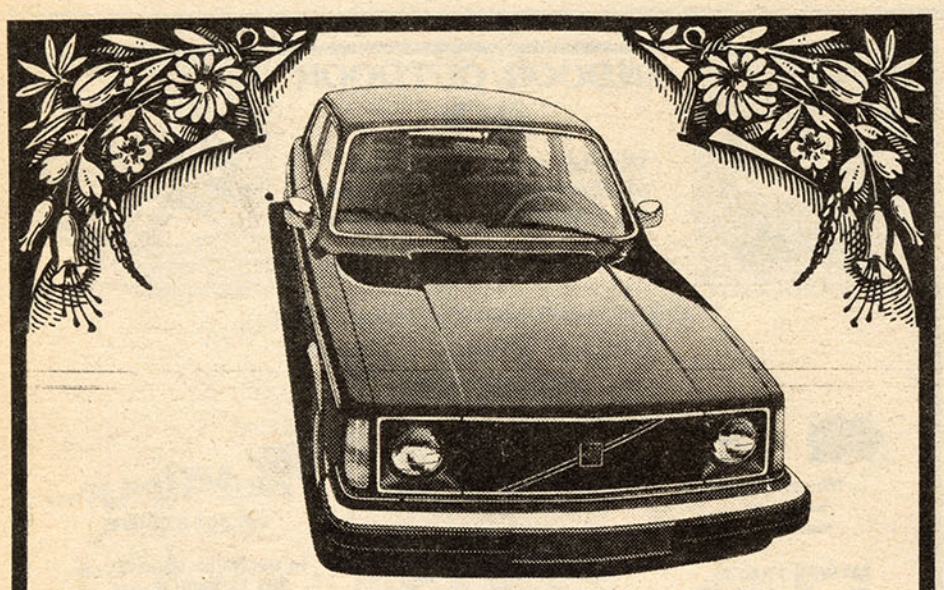
This drawing is one in a series of twelve mushroom note-cards (ten with recipes) by Janet Spahn. Available boxed at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens.

The black morel with its narrow conical cap and black ribs is associated with aspen trees, which grow north of the Bay City-Clare line. The black morel is the star of Michigan's famous morel festivals sponsored by Chamber of Commerces in Traverse City, Misic, and other towns. Contestants register and are deposited at woodland locations on state land, and proceed hopefully to gather morels and compete for prizes awarded to those who collect the most.

Bumper crops are more likely to pop up where extensive areas have been burned over. Where you know there was a forest fire last fall would be a good place to look for morels this spring, Smith says.

What about the flavor of morels? Is it really *that* fabulous? Well, the Russians, who have elevated mushroom hunting to a status somewhere between an art and a religion, make much more of other varieties, though they consider morels a delicacy. Smith says of morels, "While they're good, I wouldn't pay $50 a bushel for them under any circumstances," the way disappointed morel hunters often do up north when they're sitting around in bars after a frustrating day in the woods. "But it's all a matter of taste—other people who are just as serious think there's nothing better."

To help in heading in the right direction come morel time, the Smiths watch the weather reports in the papers in late April and early May, looking for places with the right combination of warm temperatures and abundant rainfall. "It pays off," according to Alex Smith. "And with the kind of April we've been having this month, if the weather warms up and the rains continue into May, we could have a real good morel year here around Ann Arbor."



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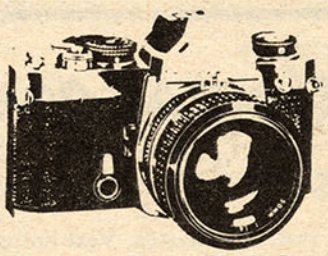

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The Omnipresent Dandelion

EARLY SPRING, before dandelions bloom, offers an opportunity to harvest a versatile vegetable and remove a hardy weed from the lawn at the same time. But you have to move promptly; once the sunny yellow flower heads have made their appearance, the plant is too bitter to be truly tasty.

In *Stalking the Wild Asparagus* Euell Gibbons recommends digging up the entire plant, roots and all, with a narrow forked bar-like tool which is also excellent for removing the root systems of other weeds. The dandelion roots can be cooked like parsnips (Gibbons says they taste different from parsnips but better) or roasted for a coffee substitute. To cook the roots, peel them with a potato peeler and boil in two waters (to remove bitterness), having added a pinch of salt to the first water. Season with salt, pepper, and butter.

For the coffee-like beverage, said to be flavorful, Gibbons recommends roasting the washed roots slowly in the oven "until they will break apart with a snap and appear very dark brown inside." Then grind them and brew like coffee; less grounds will be needed than for coffee.

The dandelion crown of tender white leaf stems just above the root, Gibbons says, is "one of the finest vegetables furnished by the dandelion and can be eaten raw in salads or cooked." In preparing dandelion crowns, slice off enough of the root top to hold the crown together, and slice off the leaves on top. Wash thoroughly to remove any grit. Soak in cold salted water til ready to use.

The green leaves of the dandelion are commonly used; most authorities agree with Gibbons that only greens from young springtime plants are worth the trouble of preparation. Wash the greens well, pour boiling water over them and let them boil for five minutes, then drain and season with salt and butter or bacon fat and perhaps with vinegar. Another forager of edible wild plants, Ben Charles Harris, suggests steaming dandelion leaves instead of boiling, and recommends flavoring them with garlic, grated onion, lemon peel or basil.

The French regard dandelions more highly than the English or Americans and even cultivate them for winter forcing and springtime greens. Burpee Seeds offers dandelion seed in this country, too. In her classic cookbook, *French Provincial Cooking,* Elizabeth David recommends the following "good country way of dealing with any rather tough-leaved and bitter salad," dandelions in particular: fry bacon until the fat runs, pour it over the washed and dried but uncooked dandelion leaves in the salad bowl, quickly add two or three tablespoons of wine vinegar to the remaining fat in the frying pan, let it bubble, and pour it all over the salad. Mix well; eat immediately.

Alyson Hart Knap, author of *Wild Harvest,* likes to treat the tender greens like ordinary salad greens, tossed with oil and vinegar and served with tomato chunks, bacon bits, and sharp cheddar cheese.

The buds of unopened flowers that you'll find nestled inside the crown stems are good in salads, too.

Once the dandelions have started blooming, dandelion wine is the principal use for them. It is made from the blossoms. Home winemakers hold it in high regard, and recipes for it are numerous, to be found in nearly any book on home winemaking. Gathering the flowers is a time-consuming process. The success or failure of the project depends on one simple operation not mentioned in many recipes: removing ALL the green material of the cushion-like button that holds the hundreds of yellow petals of each flower in place. It makes the wine bitter, according to Mettja C. Roate in *How to Make Wine in Your Own Kitchen.* Remove the cushion completely, she advises, with a sharp knife. □

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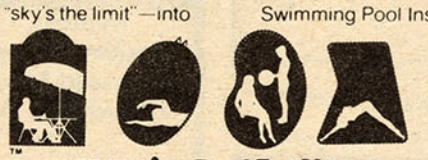

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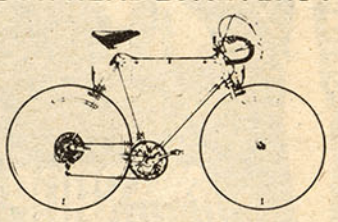

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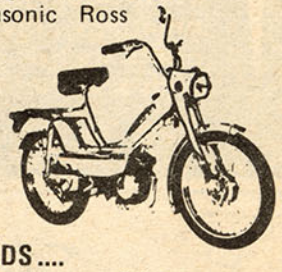

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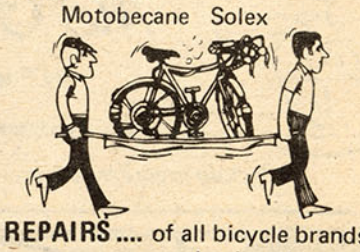

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Recommended: Boolgogi Dinner, stir-fried shredded meat and vegetables with mustard sauce; Beebin-Bob, meat-filled steamed dumplings.

Price range: Entrees, including rice, tea and in most cases ample vegetable garnish, from $3.25 to $6.95. Full carry-out and banquet services. Personal checks accepted. No credit cards. Reservations advisable for dinner.

Wheelchair access: Direct from sidewalk.

Hours: Open Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., 4:30 p.m.-9p.m.. Closed Sunday.

By Annette Churchill

STANDING BETWEEN A&D Business Machines and The Moon Shop (Clothing Repair and Alterations), the Panda is a classic "find." The restaurant's low-key advertising, improbable location, and modest appearance make it the sort of place people "discover." The sign indicating "Chinese and American cooking" dates from the days of a previous ownership, and while Panda is still the restaurant's name, Chinese-American is no longer its fare.

Panda is Ann Arbor's only *Korean* restaurant.

Eighty people can be seated inside at five small tables up front and in thirteen booths, holding four skinny people each, ranged front to back along the right-hand wall. A room at the back has more booths and two large, round tables seating at least eight. The decor is standard, perfunctory Oriental,—a few paper lanterns hung high up near the ceiling. For the rest, all is practical vinyl tablecloths and formica surfaces.

Taking my place in the back room, I noticed that all the other customers seated there were Korean—a good sign. While a Mandarin menu is also offered, we decided to eat Korean specialties exclusively on my first visit. We ordered steamed dumplings to munch on while we familiarized ourselves with the menu. They came large and fluffy, filled with an excellent meat stuffing.

All the transliterated Korean names for dishes are interpreted in English. These helpful explanations merely describe the basic ingredients, however. They do not prepare a first time customer for the thermonuclear impact of spicy Korean food. Korea lies some twelve hundred miles as the crow flies from Szechuan province in China, yet this food bears a definite resemblance to Szechuan cooking. If anything, it is hotter and spicier. Hot red pepper is its common denominator.

Much more garlic is used than in Szechuan cooking—some dishes contain several whole cloves of peeled raw garlic. I appreciate the value and versatility of garlic as a flavoring, but chomping on a whole, raw garlic clove was a firey new experience for me. I left the rest of the cloves at one side and enjoyed those dishes enormously.

The word "kimchi" appears through-

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out the menu. Kimchi is a cold relish of pickled cabbage highly flavored with garlic and hot pepper. It appears as a component of some hot dishes and as a cold accompaniment to others. I acquired quite a taste for it.

I enjoyed the Boolgogi dinner which, like the Galbee dinner, is an example of Korean barbecued beef. The basting sauce is spicy, the meat is broiled, and the copious mixed vegetable accompaniment is beautifully cut and stir-fried. Both dishes are offered as large orders ($6.25 for Boolgogi and $6.75 for Galbee) and small ($4.25 and $4.50). Stir-fried tine-cut meat (shredded) and vegetables on mung bean sheets with mustard sauce was outstanding and showed off the cook's wonderful vegetable-cutting technique. The vegetable portion of the dish was generous, varied, and a refreshing contrast to the vividly spiced meat dishes. Tofu in large, custardy cubes had the same fire-dousing effect. In fact, the extreme contrast between spicy hot and refreshingly bland seemed characteristic of everything I tried.

A word must be said about the terrific rice. It was hot and fluffy with just enough bite to make it interesting and just enough surface stickiness to keep it on our forks and chopsticks. A great steaming mountain of it was included in the price of our four entrees.

Hong Suck and In Sook Kang, the Panda's proprietors

Peter Yates

Prices at the Panda are extremely moderate. A party of four can eat well for under $20. For $25 they can gorge themselves. Everything the Panda offers is available on a carry-out basis, and the restaurant will put together a large variety of dishes for a banquet.

Hong Suck Kang and his wife, In Sook Kang, arrived in the United States from Korea three years ago. Hong is the owner-manager of the restaurant and waits on customers. In does all the cooking. The eight hundred Koreans living in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti have made the restaurant a kind of rendezvous.

I returned to the Panda on another occasion to sample items from the more standard Chinese menu. Egg rolls were good (not greasy), sweet and sour pork had a generous amount of meat and lots of good plum sauce. Crabmeat with vegetables was less successful. The crab legs were vastly overcooked. A combination dinner for four including soup, four egg rolls, sweet and sour pork, almond chicken, beef with vegetables, and shrimp with Szechuan sauce with lots of rice and tea came to only $17.95.

The Chinese menu is good, but the Panda shines with Korean dishes. They are the real thing. □

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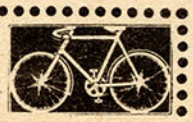
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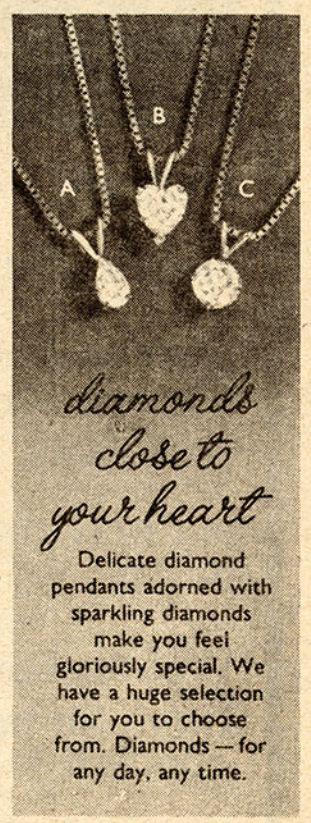

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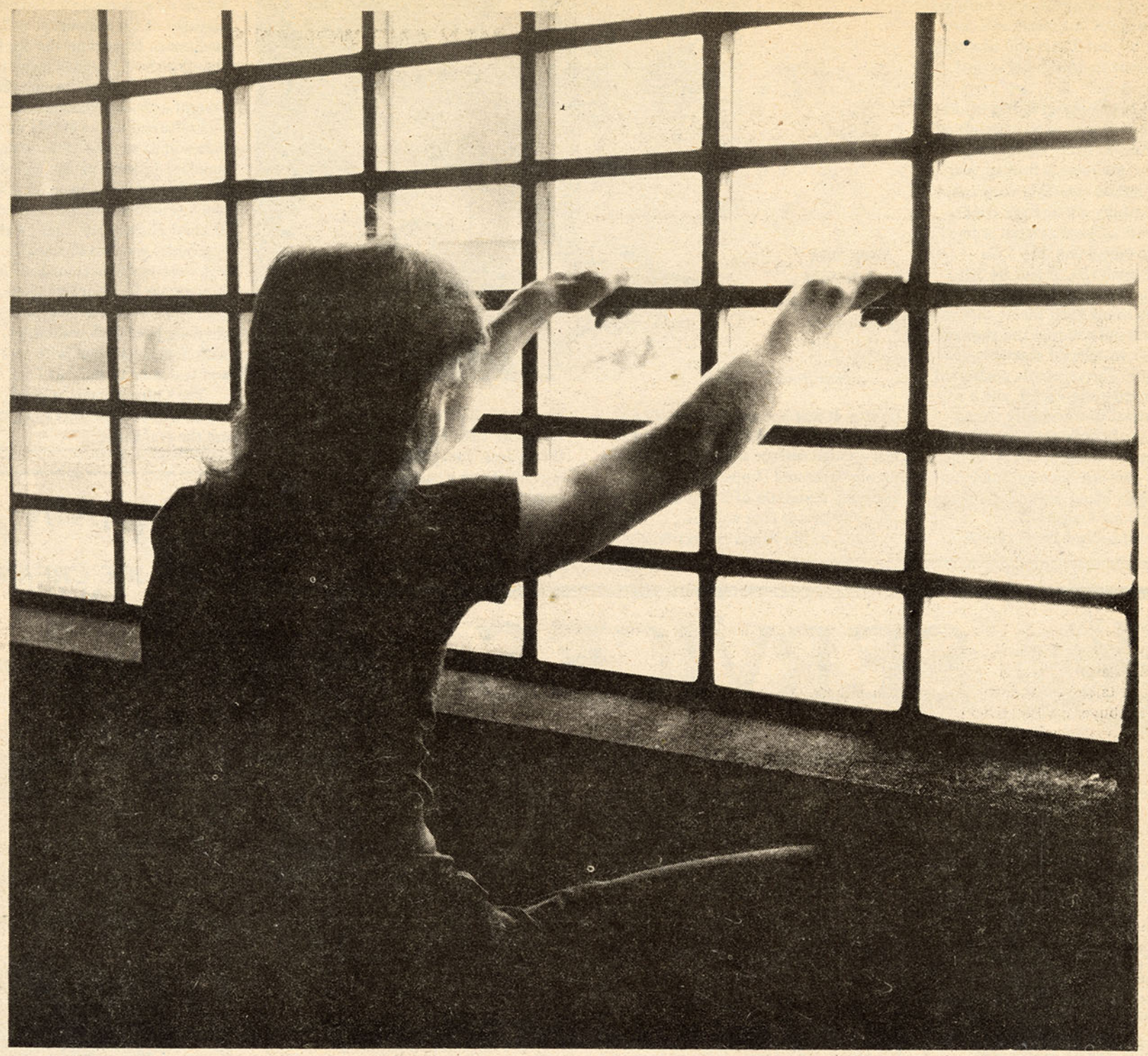

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How can we know?

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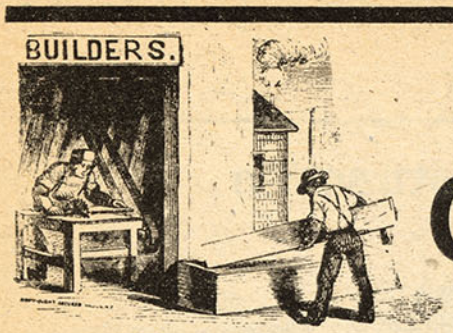
"Out of Sight, Out of Mind", a dramatic motion picture documentary by the Michigan Department of Corrections.
May 14, 16, 18, at 8 p.m. and May 21, 23, 25 at 9 p.m. on Public Access Channel 9 in Ann Arbor.



Changes

Theaters scale down and multiply

Since our article on the subject just one year ago ("The Battle of the Screens," May 1978), nearly everything has changed in the local movie theater business. New theaters are opening, and old ones are closing, being remodelled or sold.

Last spring, the **Fox Village Theater** divided its large auditorium and screen into two smaller theaters, seating 210 and 638 people respectively. Construction has just recently begun on a $250,000 addition to the building which will house two more theaters, each seating about 250 people. They are expected to be completed in mid-July. The conversion to smaller theaters has been a success at the Fox Village, with business reportedly up substantially over last year.

When we last talked to Andrew Grainger, a film buyer for Butterfield Theaters, which operates the **State** and **Michigan** theaters, he said he expected no changes to be made in either theater. Instead, there has been upheaval. As we reported last month, a local non-profit group is negotiating to buy the Michigan from the building's owners. Butterfield has been operating on month-to-month extensions of its expired lease.

The State is half-way through a metamorphosis from a 1750-seat theater into four mini-theaters, averaging 350 seats each. The two theaters on the main level are already open, and the two balcony-level theaters are expected to open on May 11. Grainger said the conversion of the State was "a very fast decision" which just followed "the natural course of events" in the theater business. He wouldn't reveal how much the conversion is costing, except to say that it is "very expensive."

Since The Movies at Briarwood opened over five years ago, movie patrons have grumbled about standing in long lines to see their favorite films. When the Fox Village and State theaters have all four of their theaters operating, the grumbling may become a howl. Unlike The Movies, the State and Fox Village will not have large indoor waiting areas, requiring some customers to wait outside, a not-too-exciting prospect in a Michigan winter.

Andrew Grainger hopes that proper scheduling, with staggered starting times, will eliminate much of the outside waiting. Fox Village Manager Dave Simpkins, recently moved from Knoxville, Tennessee, is just recovering from his first Michigan winter. He says he expects a problem with lines and hasn't worked it out yet.

Will there be enough films to fill all of these theaters? The Movies' Manager, Jim Hayden, is not at all concerned. He says there are plenty of films available, meaning Ann Arborites will simply have four or five more choices on a Saturday night. Andrew Grainger is not quite as optimistic: "We pray a lot," he says.

There is one exception to the local movie theater success story. The **Fifth Forum** is limping along, "just barely breaking even, if that," according to Manager Karen Hackenbruch. The theater has been plagued by a failure to obtain hit films. The showcases on the front of the building, which normally display posters of coming attractions, instead contain "For Sale" signs.

Long hours and low pay do not promote permanence for theater managers, and this is certainly true in Ann Arbor. Not one of the managers we spoke to last year is holding the same position now.

–Tom Wieder

Ann Arbor's smallest business

Peter Yates

Many successful Ann Arbor businesses started out as holes in the wall, but surely none could be smaller than the Ann Arbor branch of the **Brown Bess Bindery** of Rochester, Michigan. The new bindery operates out of a 44" x 67" room inside David's Books at Liberty and State. Bookbinder Maryvonne Safarti says about half her business is dissertations, (which cost $10.50 for the first copy); the rest includes a variety of jobs from restoring family Bibles and rare books to binding journals. She drills the signatures and hand-sews the books here, then sends them on to John Bullar in Rochester for the cover and title.

"Bookbinding is a craft," she told us. "I like the work and the smell of it. But to work in this space you can't weigh much more than a hundred pounds, and you must be very well organized."

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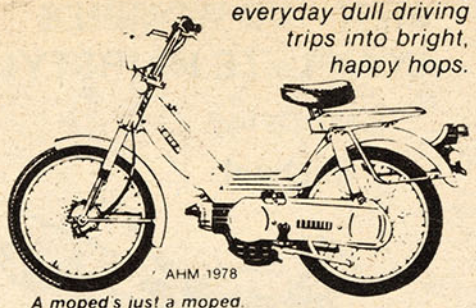

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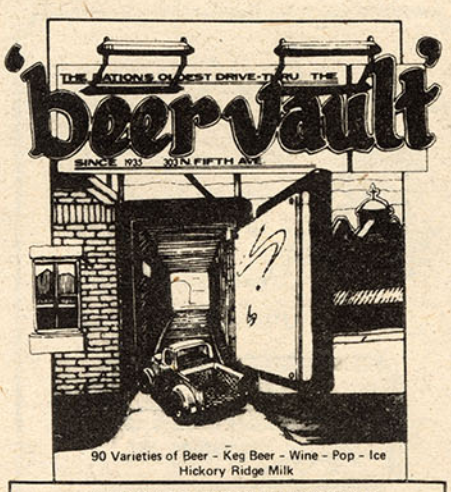
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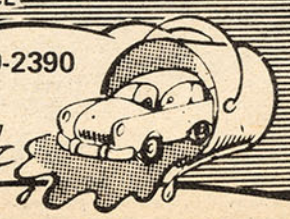

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Changes /continued

An unusual roadside attraction out Manchester way

Peter Yates

Two of the Aura Inn's four co-owners, Richard Dimond and Dan Arrington

On Pleasant Lake Road on the way to Manchester stands a vestige of a vanished era in American entertainment: a rambling old building, presently rather unattractive but not without potential, that would have been called a road-house—a tavern out in the country. To the rear, the land slopes down to Pleasant Lake, its shores still largely undeveloped, and there are attributes of another disappearing institution, the small-scale family resort—a place for swimming, picnicking, and fishing, with a concession stand and boat rentals. Signs direct visitors to a camping area for tents and trailers on the 13-acre park.

True to the typical style of such places, the tree trunks are painted white a few feet up, and there's a consciously picturesque rocky wall, probably built in the 1920's, on which a masonry squirrel sits.

If you've driven by Weber's Pleasant Lake Inn in recent years, you might well have thought it was closed. The antique shop in the cement-block addition was empty, the gas pumps outside were closed, and a good number of years had passed since fresh paint was applied. Only a few parked cars indicated that the bar might still be a going concern.

Since last fall the place has been known as the Aura Inn. Though little has changed on the exterior, it has received lavish investments of its new owners' time. The four partners, Dan Arrington, Richard Dimond, Phil Jones, and Don Yates, are old high school friends from Cass Tech, now in their late twenties, who have renovated houses (under the name of Aura Construction Company) in Ann Arbor for four years.

Last year, as the supply of bargain-price handyman's specials was drying up in Ann Arbor, Richard Dimond found that the Pleasant Lake Inn was for sale at a very attractive price. He and Yates looked at it over Memorial Day weekend, and, Dimond remembers, "We saw potential everywhere. That was the most-heard word—'potential.' Most of it's still unrealized."

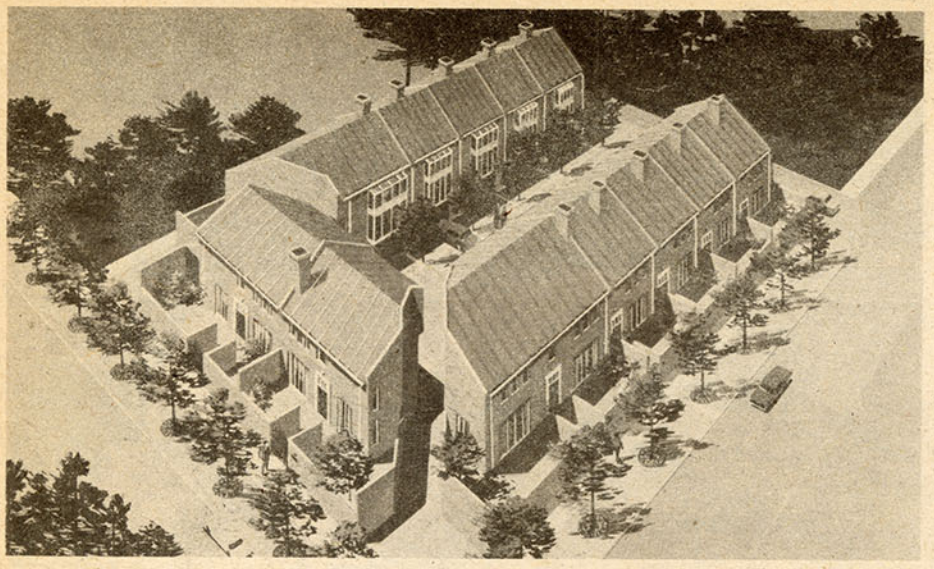
Jones and Arrington found notes on their doors saying that the answer to their dreams had been found: a bar on a lake. Next thing they knew, they were signing the sales agreement and learning how to run a bar—a radical change of lifestyle for people who were early risers into yoga and running.

The new owners' first impulse was to do something different from what Pleasant Lake and vicinity was accustomed to. They billed the Aura Inn as "an unusual roadside attraction" and implemented a Del-Rio type menu, with chapatis and herb teas in addition to burgers, chips, and beer. "We had high hopes with the chapati," Dimond remembers. "And we sold maybe two. We had eight kinds of tea and never sold any." The bar's inherited regulars, an assortment of retired farmers, loafers, and other local people, preferred the basics, and the revised menu reflects their tastes. It consists mainly of soup (made by Uncle Ole, a regular in his sixties who crochets as he drinks), hamburgers and other sandwiches, the most exotic of which is the Pope Burger, a Polish sausage with sauerkraut on Italian bread for $1.80.

The music program has been similarly modified. Rock and roll bands attracted big weekend crowds from Detroit until the drinking age was raised to 21, but they didn't do much toward developing a steady local clientele. For the past few months the Lewis and Clark Expedition, a country and western band, has succeeded in drawing locals of all ages and younger audiences from Ann Arbor. The band plays Thursday through Sunday nights and takes requests. Casey Clark, a veteran fiddler with nearly fifty years' experience, combines good old times with showmanship and spontaneous promotional hype. When the Aura Inn staged a 10-band, 12-hour Country Jamboree last year, the owners were surprised to hear Casey announce to the audience, "You think *this* is good? Watch for our outdoor Grand Ol' Opry Show next year!" (That was the first the owners had heard of the big event coming up this summer.)

Now that the Aura Inn's new owners have gotten on top of the bar business by investing 50 to 75 hours a week apiece, they are faced with new challenges: running the park and remodeling the old place. Admission to the park will be 50 cents to a dollar; boat rentals and campsites will continue to be available. (Fishing on Pleasant Lake is said to be excellent, with largemouth bass, walleye and northern pike.) The park will be open daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day, closing at dusk. Entertainment in the bar may be nightly come summer.

In a few months, if all goes well, a deck will be built behind the bar overlooking the lake. Then, Dimond says, "as the money rolls in—that's a favorite expression around here—we plan more seating, a bigger kitchen, apartments upstairs, and landscaping and a renovated exterior." U-M architecture student Alan Cohen is doing the design work for his master's thesis.



The $190-200,000 units in Carl Brauer's proposed development are the two largest corner units in the foreground. The eight smaller units may sell for $100-110,000. Colvin-Robinson Associates, Architects.

$200,000 townhouses by the Market?

Is downtown Ann Arbor ripe for new luxury housing of the attached townhouse type, similar to what's found among the old rowhouses on Society Hill in Philadelphia, in Georgetown, D. C., or on Beacon Hill in Boston? **Realtor Carl Brauer** thinks it may be. He's testing the market for a proposed 12-unit condominium development at Fifth and Catherine, on property he has long owned.

The two-bedroom houses, each with a private enclosed streetside patio and a secure private garage-workshop area in the basement, would sell from an estimated $110-120,000 (for a basic 1280-sq. ft. house with a large dining-kitchen area) to $190-200,000 for 2150-sq.-ft. with a two-story living room, library, and formal dining room.

Preliminary design work is by Colvin-Robinson Associates, primarily Rick Herrman and Karen White.

Might not the location, on the fringe of the student rental area in a neighborhood that until recently had long been preceived as lower-middle-class, put off the kind of people who can afford these dwellings? While Brauer's preliminary prospectus admits that "this type of living is not for everyone," he feels that "one of the neat things about Ann Arbor is the the different people rubbing elbows, that it's not a stratified community." He thinks there may well be a significant market of sophisticated, affluent people who value downtown's advantages in dining, culture, diversity, and so forth.

Brauer feels the quality of his project and its special features (an intimate landscaped interior courtyard, brass doorplates, fireplaces, etc.) will create sufficient prestige and recognition to allay any anxieties over the social status of living downtown.

So far, he says, he's "very encouraged by the response"-- which has been especially great among single men and women of various ages and positions. If the market seems right, construction could begin by fall, more likely by spring.

The four houses currently on the site would be removed but not necessarily demolished. Anyone willing to move one one to another site can have it for free, Brauer says. Two houses are in fair and two are in good condition.

Houses now on the site would be free to anyone who'll move them.

Assorted Notes

The Forbidden City restaurant (featuring Peking and Mandarin-style Chinese food) has opened in the former Bolgos Restaurant at Plymouth and Green Roads. It's the third in a chain owned by Frank Yang (a Dow Chemical engineer of Chinese extraction raised in Korea), his wife Katy, and relative and local manager Norman Yang. . . **The Bivouac** casual clothing at 330 S. State has expanded into the space recently vacated by Saks Fifth Avenue. Bivouac's women's clothing clothing department has filled the space and is attempting to fill the fashion void left by Saks. Bivouac started out as camping and outdoor-wear specialists. Its recent emphasis on fashion is surely a sign of changing times on college campuses. (The camping and outdoor goods departments remain.). . . Renovation work on the **Wolverine Building**, at Fourth and Washington moves forward, with $70,000 worth of new windows being installed currently. After exploring some potential deals that would see several floors leased to single tenants (one prospect was Michigan National Bank), rental agent Peter Allen is back to the small offices for small tenants concept, which makes use of the 50-year-old office building's present layout. A model suite is now being readied. Some current tenants are breathing signs of relief at not being forced to move out, while they await news of what the new rents will be. Others (notably the several social service agencies housed there) are preparing to leave.

Beneficial Finance will be leaving in a few months for new quarters in Maple Village. Allen plans to subdivide the ground-floor space into four retail stores. Currently he's talking to several State Street and South University retailers about establishing downtown branches in the Wolverine Building.

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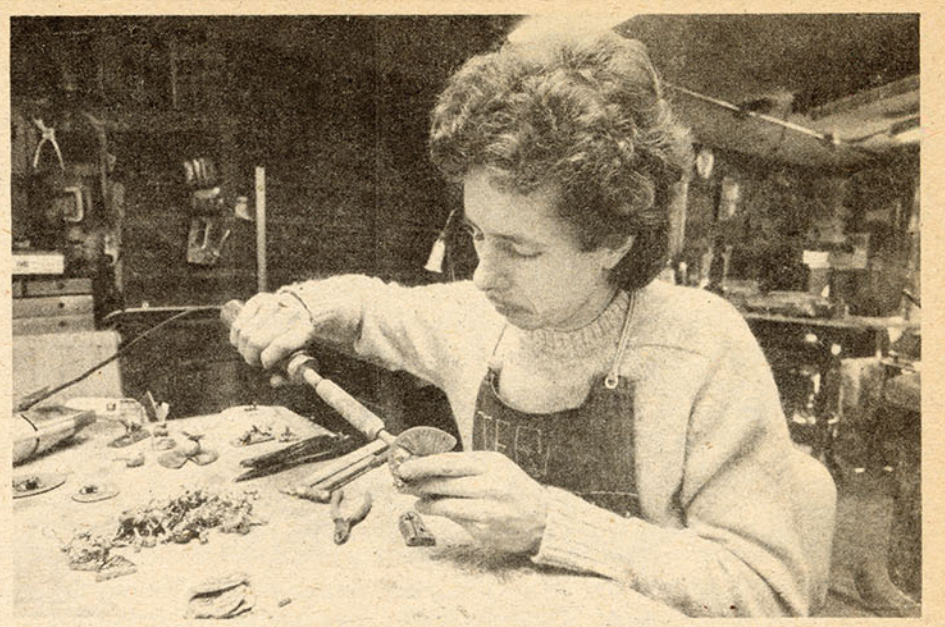


Creative copying is this metalsmith's art

"**Teri Jefferson**, Whitesmith" says the sign that soon will hang outside the trim garage-workshop at 330 W. Liberty, behind the old Oddfellow's Lodge and just up from the train tracks at Liberty and First. It's a fanciful sign, bedecked with mermaids and jewels. In contract to the simple block letters of the sign that marked the workshop for the past thirty-five years ("ERV LUTZ, KEYS–MOWERS & SKATES SHARPENED") it tells a lot about the decorative direction the manual arts and crafts are taking in Ann Arbor today.

Jefferson– craftsman, one-time graduate student in history, former office manager for New York Telephone, former product designer-manager for an importer of boutique gift items, and brother of Ann Arbor lighting designer and antique dealer David Jefferson of The Lily Shoppe–believes he is the only full-time metal caster in Michigan who is not involved in manufacturing specialty parts for the automotive industry.

Jefferson's products tend toward the decorative or whimsical: ornate parts for stained-glass lamps; rabbits and squirrels sitting on logs; Baroque nudes forming mirror frames; and iridescent frogs perched on lily pads. As a whitesmith, he works in the "white metals": pewter, zinc-aluminum, and other alloys that are slush-cast in silicone rubber molds and then finished in gold, chrome, bronze, or other finishes which may be oxidized for an instant "antique" look.

With his brother David Jefferson, Teri has collaborated on many lamps and mirror frames which can be seen locally at The Lily Shoppe and Megaframes. Now, comfortably ensconced in his trim wood-heated office-workshop, Teri is developing and marketing a line of specialty parts for the manufacturers of stained-glass lamps.

His initial venture in metal casting (making belt buckles) encountered a glut of big-time competitors, so Jefferson hit upon the idea of supplying hard-to-find component parts for Tiffany-type stained-glass lamps.

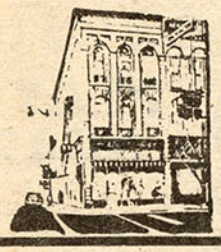
In the rapidly-developing stained-glass field there was until recently a real scarcity of quality materials. Now sufficient quantities of good glass products are available, and varied designs for decorative bases are more common, but quality and variety in component parts is still hard to find. After extensive talks with stained-glass craftspeople at a trade fair, Jefferson chose his main product line of ornate and unusual component parts: vase caps for the tops of Tiffany-type table lamps; finials; and cluster balls to which light sockets are attached.

The process of casting itself is fairly straightforward. An original brass model, called a template, is cast from a wax mold which may be handcarved or is often taken from antique objects (mirror frames or specialty hardware items, perhaps). Jefferson modifies or combines castings from antiques to create new original items. (In this field opportunities abound for passing off as antiques newly-cast objects made with molds from antiques. One stained-glass supplier even sells fake Louis C. Tiffany tags to solder to lamps. Jefferson disdains this practice; he signs and dates his pieces.)

From the brass templates numerous rubber molds may be made. Then the mold is put into a centrifuge, filled with molten metal, and spun to distribute the metal evenly without bubbles throughout the mold. When the metal cools, the cast is removed, excess metal cut off, and a finish is applied.

The manufacturing process may be clear-cut, but the rest of Jefferson's fledgling business is full of trial and error, lucky finds, and trade secrets. Being a scavenger and historically-oriented bookworm helps in coming up with attractive antique models and source books to use for his new but old-looking product designs. It takes time and effort to locate suppliers and specialty manufacturers for hard-to-find parts and big or complete production jobs. Jefferson says he has learned a lot about different finishes from talking to platers. In the competitive and trendy giftware field, such hard-won knowledge is valuable and not loosely divulged.

In addition to his product lines for the stained-glass trade, Jefferson is also interested in developing a local market of customers who might want custom-designed prize medallions, plaques, or specialty commemorative items like belt buckles or pendants for members of organizations. His workshop is not a retail shop, but customers are welcome by appointment (996-0011).



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Calendar

EVENTS

Friday, May 4
The Big Birthday Party for the Michigan League

The Michigan League is fifty, and to celebrate, U-M alumnae and League management have planned a birthday dinner in the ballroom (with a menu as close as possible to the dedication dinner fifty years ago), followed by Bill Bolcom and Joan Morris performing in Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. They'll sing popular songs from five decades.

It promises to be a splendid evening, to anyone familiar with the League's outstanding food and with Bolcom and Morris's spirited interpretations of American popular music. He's a piano virtuoso, she has a beautiful clear voice, and they're *very* funny together.

5:30 reception with cash bar in the League concourse; 6:30 birthday dinner; 8:30 Bolcom & Morris concert. Tickets ($12.50 per person) sold through May 1. Call 764-0446 or mail check to Michigan League, 227 S. Ingalls, 48109 (payable to the League Birthday Committee). Separate tickets for Bolcom & Morris will be sold at the League Box Office for $5.

Friday, May 4
"Limelight" at Cinema Guild

Directed by Charles Chaplin, 1952. Deliciously sentimental, this late masterpiece should not be missed by those who know and love the early Chaplin. Here the master sheds his familiar Little Tramp persona to portray an aging vaudevillian who comes to the aid of young lovers Farley Granger and Claire Bloom. The main theme, however, is that of a grand comedian playing out the endgame of his career. Appropriately, Buster Keaton is featured in a supporting role. – H.H.

7:30 and 10 p.m., Old Architecture Auditorium. $1.50.

Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6
Hands-On Medical Exhibit

The Hands-On Museum just getting organized has joined with Mott Children's Hospital to produce this participatory exhibit for children and adults. There's a mini hospital room to show children what hospitals are like, and stethoscopes, a blood pressure device, and other diagnostic equipment to let children play doctor and allay their fears of examinations. A demonstrator will teach how to apply artificial respiration techniques on a dummy, and a prosthetic mechanical hand shows how handless handicappers can manipulate objects. Panel displays inform viewers of the "Hands-On" concept and of plans for the Hands-On Museum to be located in the old firehouse.

9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Grand Court at Briarwood Mall.

Saturday, May 5
The Jongleurs

Probably the best place to hear Renaissance and Medieval music is in a church. Though all music of that time was not sacred, the ecclesiastical setting of a cathedral-like building and the spacious acoustic shows this music off to its best advantage. The Jongleurs have a spring program in just such a building, the beautiful nave of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, a Gothic Revival building erected in 1867. The concert's theme may look dry on paper but comes to life in performance. They've chosen to excerpt pieces from the Oxford canonici 213. In this collection you'll find some of the best music of its time from France and Italy. Names like Dufay and Binchois are well represented.

The Jongleurs enjoy a growing national reputation, and their home base is right here in Ann Arbor. Their youthful enthusiasm is coupled with careful scholarship and excellent showmanship. A special feature: this concert marks the debut of Patrick Hill's new Renaissance harp–an instrument of modest size and exotic timbre.

– E.M.

3 p.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets ($3.50, students and seniors $2.50) at Tix Info, Herb David, Liberty Music.

Saturday, May 5
A Day for Art Lovers at the Ann Arbor Art Association

Open house, lectures, chamber music, an evening champagne reception, cocktail buffet and art auction– it's a big event and the Art Association's major fund-raiser for its lectures, workshops and films.

For more information and tickets ($10), call 994-8004 or stop by 117 W. Liberty.

Sunday, May 6
Ecology Center Bike-a-Thon

The Ninth Annual Bike-a-Thon is the Ecology Center's largest fund-raising event of the year. Participating riders collect pledges of a certain amount per mile from individuals, organizations, and businesses. They can choose among three routes–an 11-mile route within Ann Arbor, a 28-mile route along the Huron River Drive to Dexter and back via scenic Scio Church Road, or a 100-mile century ride (for conditioned and experienced riders only) to the village of Grape on the Raisin River in Monroe County. The shorter routes are patrolled by police, sheriffs, and volunteer bicycle marshalls, with "sag-wagons" to provide first aid and water.

Last year's Bike-a-Thon attracted 350 people and netted $8,700 for the Ecology Center. This year's fund-raiser is even more important, because Ecology Center revenues from its Recycling Station are down as a result of the successful throwaway bottle ban. The Bike-a-Thon also provides limited funding for its other co-sponsors, the Ann Arbor Bicycle League and the Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society (which sponsors the Grape Century Ride).

To participate as a sponsor, call the Ecology Center at 761-3186. Riders may pick up the Bike-a-Thon brochure at the Ecology Center, 417 Detroit, or at the public library, City Hall, or area bike shops.

The Grape Century Ride begins at 8 a.m., the other rides begin at noon. All start and end at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market.

Sunday, May 6
Walking Tour of Historic Near Northeast Neighborhood

To help celebrate National Historic Preservation Week, the Historic District Commission has planned a 1½ hour tour of the historic houses and churches on and near North Division, Ann, and North State. The tour concludes with refreshments in the new fire station.

1 p.m., beginning at City Hall. 50 cents to cover refreshments.

Sunday, May 6
"Birdwatchers Get Together" and "Amphibians and Reptiles" nature walks

Bring binoculars if possible to see herons, woodpeckers, owls and (hopefully) migrating birds. The second walk features turtles, salamanders, and snakes. Sponsored by the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

"Birdwatchers" at 8 a.m., "Amphibians" at 1 p.m. at Park Lyndon on North Territorial Road one mile east of M-52.

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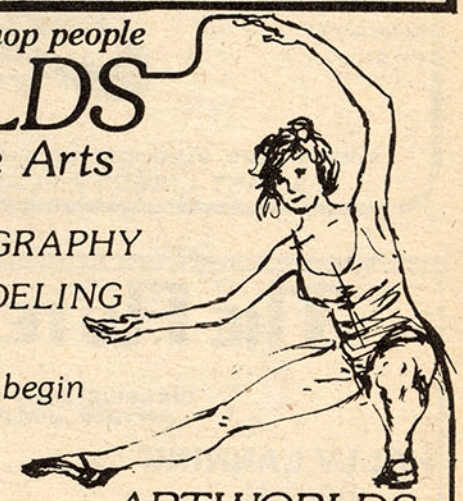

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Saturday, May 19 - 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 20 - 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

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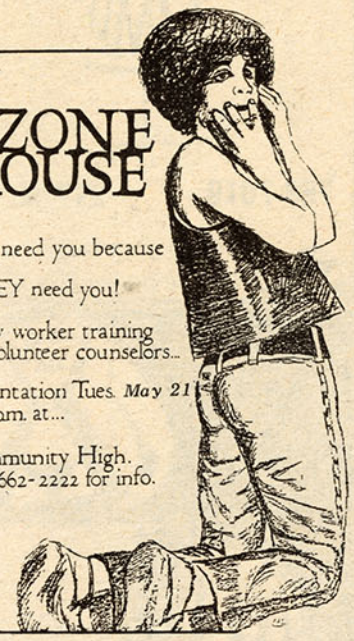

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Calendar/continued

Sunday, May 6
Ann Arbor Civic Ballet spring performance

Featuring 'Serenade' by William Dollar, a respected figure in contemporary American ballet, who worked with the company to choreograph this original ballet to Mozart's 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik.' Also performed will be excerpts from Coppelia—"Czardas and Betrothal," "Danser Joyeusement," "Wind-Bourne," and "Tarantella."

2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Power Center. Tickets ($1.50 children, $3.50 adults) may be purchased at Jacobson's Tix/Info,

Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12
Plant Sale

House plants donated by members of the Washtenaw County Historical Society will be sold at the Kempf House to benefit the society and its new museum. Music by the Ann Arbor Recorder Society, lemonade and cookies sold by Girl Scouts of Eberwhite School.

Friday, May 11 from noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, May 11
"The Lady Vanishes" (plus cartoons and short films) at Cinema Guild

Directed by Alfred Hitchcock, 1938. The master manipulator of cinema audiences at his witty British best. This is a classic of the genre of strange intrigues and enigmatic occurrences on continental train rides. Vanessa Redgrave's father, Michael, is the dashing but typically perplexed Hitchcockian protagonist, and Dame May Whitty is the vanishing lady. This is a night of fine filmic fun, with vintage cartoons and short films by local artists, including John Nelson's "107½."

– H.H.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Old Architecture Auditorium on Monroe. $1.50.

Saturday, May 12
"The Lyndon Symphony" nature walk

The Washtenaw County Parks Commission naturalist will identify the birds, animals, and insects that contribute to the symphony of nighttime sounds at Park Lyndon.

7:30 p.m. at Park Lyndon on North Territorial Road one mile east of M-52.

Saturday, May 12
Symphony Band of Ann Arbor

The Symphony Band of Ann Arbor directed by Victor Bordo gives its Spring Concert tonight. Civic bands are rare these days, and good ones are even more so. Bordo brings to Ann Arbor's band a long standing reputation of quality performances from the Ann Arbor Pioneer High Bands. The Symphony Band of Ann Arbor draws on all Ann Arbor—town gown—and always comes up with spirited and varied programs. This concert is devoted to lighter music; it also features a youth soloist, hornist Wesley Yard, with excerpts from a Mozart Concerto. – E.M.

8 p.m. in the Huron High School Auditorium. Free.

Saturday, May 12
Walking Tour of Historic Near Northeast Neighborhood

See May 6 for description, time, and place.

Sunday, May 13
Barococo Ensemble

The virtuoso tradition is alive and well in the hands of the Barococo Ensemble. Musicologist Ellwood Derr heads this group which combines vocal and instrumental music of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Their upcoming concert celebrates the musician's ability to master extremely difficult music, but to make it sound like child's play. The program is varied as always with opera ensembles from the Baroque and Sonatas for strings and harpsichord designed to leave the hearer breathless and applauding!

– E.M.

4 p.m. in the Pendleton Room, 2nd floor, Michigan Union. Tickets ($3) at King's Keyboard House and at the door.

Sunday, May 13
"Spring Flowers" nature walk

9 a.m. at Park Lyndon (east parking lot), North Territorial Road one mile east of M-52.

Sunday, May 13
"Spring Flowers and Birds"

At Montibeller Park there's a tremendous display of trillium along with other wildflowers.

8 a.m. at Montibeller Park, Ellsworth Road just east of Carpenter.

Friday, May 18
"Best of the New York Festival of Women's Films" at Cinema II.

Tonight's films serve as prelude to next fall's festival of women's films, which will be co-ordinated with courses offered in Women's Studies. This is the first available package of outstanding short films made entirely by women, and it includes works by Claudia ("Girlfriends") Weill, Nancy Dowd and Constance Beesin. "The films range from lyrical and ironic looks at a woman's home life to an abstract horror fantasy about rape and rebirth to strong feminist statements about stereotypes of American women." – H.H.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Auditorium A, Angell Hall, $1.50.

Friday, May 18 through Sunday, May 20
"Dr. Dolittle"

The play about the eccentric doctor who prefers animals to people is presented by the Junior Theater of the Ann Arbor Recreation Department. Young people in grades 7 to 12 produce and perform the play.

May 18 at 7 p.m., May 19 and 20 at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. at Pioneer High School Little Theater.

Saturday, May 19
"Love and Anarchy" at Cinema Guild

Directed by Lina Wertmuller, 1974. This is surely Wertmuller's finest film. Somehow a leftist plot to assassinate Mussolini turns into a crazy, sexy romp through a colorful bordello in pre-World War II Rome. Giancarlo Giannini is wonderful as the confused idealist who comes to the big city and becomes ensnarled in romance as well as politics. The comedy is superb, and beautifully blended with thought-provoking, timeless moral issues. Italian, with subtitles. Also: vintage Mighty Mouse cartoons. – H.H.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Old Architecture Auditorium on Monroe. $1.50.

Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20
Tecumseh "Promenade the Past" tour

Eleven historic structures, including eight houses, two churches, and one commercial structure, can be toured. In addition, there will be an antiques and crafts sidewalk market, plus music and square dance demonstrations.

During the 19th century Tecumseh was a prosperous agricultural trade center with some industry as well. Moderate growth in recent years has not torn away at the historic urban fabric, so the town has preserved an unusual number of its fine old homes.

1-6 p.m. Tickets are $3 in advance (write Tecumseh Area Historical Society, Box 26, Tecumseh, Michigan 49286), $4 on tour.

Sunday, May 20
The Antiques Market

Over 225 dealers take part in this monthly extravaganza. The promoter guarantees the offerings for authenticity. Lunch and snacks available.

8 a.m.- 4 p.m. at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road. $1 admission; free parking.

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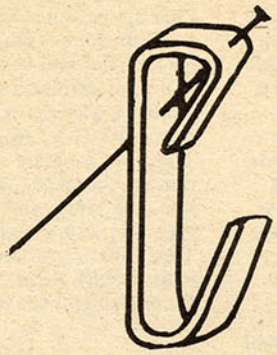

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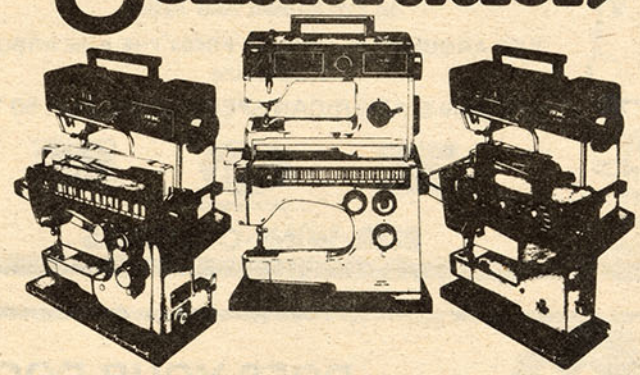

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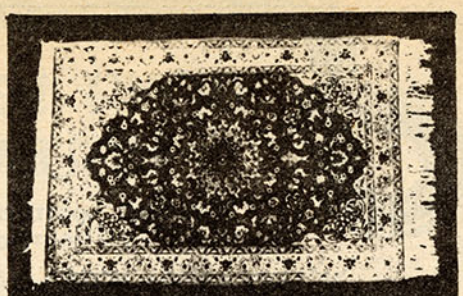

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Calendar/ continued

Sunday, May 20
Roman Polanski's "Macbeth" at Cinema II

Directed by Roman Polanski, 1972, with screenplay by Kenneth Tynan from a play by Shakespeare. Polanski is one of our greatest cinematic artists, and one can only hope that he can pursue his craft in this country once again. Polanski's life and art have become wedded to the macabre, the brutal and the tragic, and thus "Macbeth" was a fit project. The cinematic translation is stunning in its realism, vivid in its violence, and Lady Macbeth plays against our expectations—a young bride who does her sleepwalk scene in the nude.

– H.H.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Auditorium A, Angell Hall. $1.50.

Thursday, May 24
Chester Burke, flute

Flutist Chester Burke performs tonight in the Assembly Hall of the Rackham Building fourth floor. Don't let that academic-sounding venue put you off. Many student recitalists are discovering the pleasant acoustics and intimate atmosphere of the hall. It's a near-ideal setting for chamber music, and Chester Burke has chosen a program with an eye and ear for the season. It is an evening of French music performed with friends. The program's highlight will be the Debussy Trio for Flute, Viola and Harp. Burke is a recent winner of the U-M Concerto Competition, and he's off to France for a concert tour right after this performance.

– E.M.

8 p.m. in the Rackham Assembly Hall. Free.

Saturday, May 26
Dexter-Ann Arbor Run

Now in its sixth year, the Dexter-Ann Arbor Run has mushroomed beyond all expectations (and even desires) of its main sponsor, the Ann Arbor Track Club. In its first year, 1974, 159 runners participated. Last year there were nearly 1800 official entrants, 650 from out of town. This year Track Club president Elmo Morales fears there will be 5000—and that's without national publicity in magazines like *Runner's World.*

"We don't really *want* people to come from all over," Morales said. "We emphasize mass participation, but we want this to be a local community thing with local sponsors." He attributes the run's popularity in part to the beauty of the course along the Huron River.

Organizational help for the run is largely volunteer; even so, expenses add up when thousands of runners are involved. Ambulance coverage alone costs $3000. The Memorial Day weekend date presents a problem, too: runners have no chance to train in the heat, yet it's often hot for the run.

There are two courses to challenge runners: the 15-mile route from Dexter High on Baker Road to Huron High, and a 7-mile course from Foster Bridge at Huron River Drive and North Maple Road, also finishing at Huron High.

Each runner receives a Dexter-Ann Arbor run T-shirt for participating. Finishers receive certificates with their names and running times; male and female winners for best overall time receive trophies. Last year Pete Hallop of Ann Arbor won the 15-mile run with a time of one hour, 20 minutes and 2 seconds. Karen McKeachie of Dexter was the winning woman; she finished in 1 hour, 40 minutes and 55 seconds.

8:30 a.m. REGISTER IN ADVANCE.

(Deadline is May 18; post entries will not be accepted.) Applications are available at all offices of Ann Arbor Bank and Trust (which co-sponsors the run) and at local sport shops.

Saturday, May 26 through Monday, May 28
Colorful Doings at the Waterloo Hunt Club

A short trip out of Ann Arbor to a pretty country town and a chance to watch beautiful horses there sounds like an attractive Memorial Day weekend excursion.

On May 26 and 27 the Waterloo Hunt Club Spring Horse Show will take place on the club grounds in Grass Lake. Since showing each day will be continuous from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and food and beverages will be available, why not make a day of it, or even two? Drive around Grass Lake a bit while you are there and see the nineteenth-century charm of the community that has attracted some exurbanites to settle there. Take I-94 west to exit 150 (Grass Lake). Turn right and proceed to Glen Road. Turn right on Glen Road. You'll come on the Hunt Club grounds in half a mile.

If the horse show has whetted your appetite for more horse events, you can go to see the point-to-point races (steeplechase) in Grass Lake on May 28. There will be five races starting at 1 p.m. A brass ensemble playing hunting calls, and related music will add still more color to an already colorful event. This time bring your own refreshments and a blanket or folding seat to sit on.

To find the races, exit from I-94 at exit 150 as before. Turn into the access road that parallels I-94 and proceed to Willis Road. Turn right onto Willis and go one half mile further to the races.

There is no charge for admission to these events.

– A.C.

Thursday, May 31 through Sunday, June 3
"Follies" with the Ann Arbor Civic Theater

Production of this hit showbiz musical with music by Stephen Sondheim marks the Civic Theater's fiftieth birthday and its first chance to work in Power Center. Playing in the 1800-seat house meant much higher royalties, which together with the extra production expenses a big musical entails, has raised the ticket prices higher than normal.

"Follies" is about the reunion of old song-and-dance troupers (played by Sandra Storer, Marybeth Seiler, John Stephens, and Bob Starring) when they discover that the theater they had performed in years before is about to be destroyed. The nostalgic get-together to save the theater evokes the ghosts of their younger selves (Susan Dawson, Sally Helppie, Paul Couture and Peter Hedlesky). There's an enormous cast that includes many old Civic Theater favorites. The musical numbers touch on nearly every aspect of popular music between 1919 and 1941, from torch songs to tap dancing, to high-stepping production numbers.

8 p.m. May 31-June 2, 3 p.m. June 3, at Power Center. Tickets ($3.50, $5.50, $8.50 and $12.50) may be reserved by calling Dave Gilbert at 426-8089.

EXHIBITS

Regrettably, space and time constraints have resulted in our postponing implementation of our exhibit and gallery section.

A guide to exhibits at Ann Arbor galleries and shops has recently come out. *Gallery,* edited and published every other month by Kathy Gotshall, can be found at hotels, retail shops, information racks, and galleries themselves. No charge.

TALKS & CLASSES

Tuesday, May 1
Diet and Nutrition (Spring Running Clinic)

Diet for physically active people—advocates of various diet styles speak. Sponsored by the Ann Arbor Track Club and Runner's Realm.

7 p.m. at Community High School, 401 N. Division.

Friday, May 4
"Venus Report I" (U-M Astronomical Film Festival)

Jim Loudon lectures on Pioneer Venus and the most recent Soviet Venus landings.

7:30, Auditorium 3, Modern Languages Building, Washington & Thayer. Free.

Saturday, May 5
Adoption and Foster Care Workshop

Presentation and question-and-answer session with adoptive parents and social service professionals. They discuss conventional methods of adoption, foster care, international adoption, and adopting older children and handicapped children. For more information, call Pat Moore at 995-2096.

1-4 p.m. in the Ann Arbor Public Library basement meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Avenue.

Tuesday, May 8
"Job Search" series for women job-seekers

Resume-writing, interviewing, and information gathering are emphasized.

1-3 p.m. on four consecutive Tuesdays at the Center for Continuing Education for Women, 328 Thompson. Registration required; call 763-1353.

Tuesday, May 8
Training for Racing (Spring Running Clinic)

7 p.m. at Community High School, 401 N. Division.

Thursday, May 10
"Why Live in an Old House?"

Panel discussion, plus film on neighborhood renewal in Schenecdaty, New York. Sponsored by the Historic District Commission.

7:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room in the new fire station, 111 N. Fifth Ave.

Saturday, May 12
Tree Clinic

Tree specialists will be on hand at Burns Park to help people identify insect and disease problems of their trees and plant materials. Consultants include Bob Tate and Bill Lawrence of the City Forester's Office (which sponsors the clinic); Harrison Morton, U-M forest plant pathologist; and John Whitter, U-M forest entomologist.

Bring small branches, samples of damaged leaves, or insects in jars. In this loosely-structured clinic, participants learn from examples they bring in.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Burns Park.

Tuesday, May 15
Advanced Racing Techniques (Spring Running Clinic)

Dr. Richard Mock, editor of *Racer's Edge*, presents findings on what affects maximum athletic performances.

7 p.m. at Community High School, 401 N. Division.

Thursday, May 17
"Buying, Financing and Maintaining the Older Home"

Panel discussion sponsored by the Historic District Commission, with a showing of the film "A Future for the Past."

7:30 p.m. in the second-floor conference room in the new fire station, 111 N. Fifth Avenue.

Thursday, May 17
"Younger than Springtime"

At this and other Turner Geriatric Clinic workshops, experts (either by virtue of professional health care training or by first-hand experience with the problems of aging) share information and insights with the audience, which is encouraged to participate. This program deals with the importance of staying active.

1-3:30 at the Turner Geriatric Clinic, 1010 Wall Street.

Tuesday, May 22
Hot Weather Running (Spring Running Clinic)

Preventing and treating heat-related problems.

7 p.m. at Community High School, 401 N. Division.

Thursday, May 24
"How to Date the Older House"

Panel discussion sponsored by the Historic District Commission, together with a slide talk on Ann Arbor architecture by city historian Wystan Stevens.

7:30 p.m. in the second-floor conference room of the new fire station, 111 N. Fifth Ave.

Friday, May 25
"Voyager Report I" (U-M Astronomical Film Festival)

Jim Loudon lectures on the results of Voyager I's Jupiter fly-by this March. Info on Jupiter's moons is not included.

7:30, Auditorium 3, Modern Languages Building, Washington & Thayer. Free.

CALENDAR CONTRIBUTORS

Annette Churchill is a contributing editor of the Ann Arbor Observer.
Harvey Hamburgh is assistant professor at The University of Michigan Dearborn, where he teaches courses on art history and film.
Mary Hunt edits the calendar and writes much of it.
Evans Mirageas is an announcer and producer at WUOM; he hosts the "Music of the Masters" program.

TO PUBLICIZE EVENTS IN THE CALENDAR

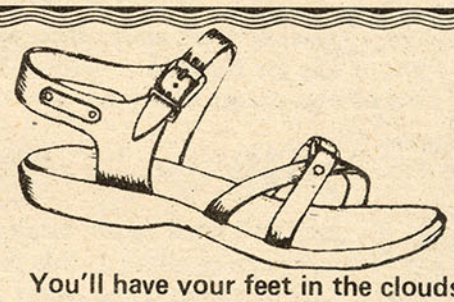
Mail press releases and additional information to Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 206 South Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

With a very few exceptions, events must be within Ann Arbor. Always include the address and phone number of a reachable contact person. The calendar is published a month ahead; notices for September events, for example, must arrive in August. All material received by the 15th of the preceding month can be used as space permits; material submitted later may or may not get in. Illustrations are appreciated.

Vintage Clothing
Ragtop
121 W. WASHINGTON

MARGARET PARKER
ONE-WOMAN SHOW
OIL
TAPESTRY
GOUACHE
may 8 - june 3
reception:
may 11, 7-9:30pm
HOURS
Tues—Fri, 9—5
Saturday, 12—5
764-3234
UNION GALLERY
FIRST FLOOR MICHIGAN UNION

William Pelletier
Photographic Mandalas
May 1 — June 6
The Blixt Gallery
229 Nickels Arcade
662-0282
Hours: M-F 9:30-5
Sat. 10-4



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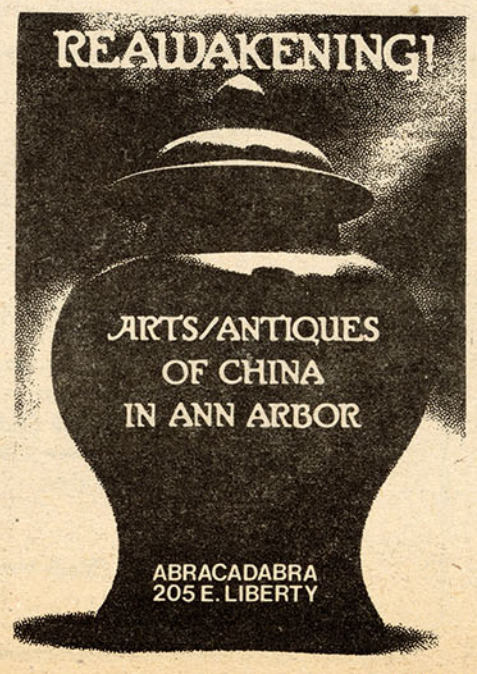
MAST'S
TWO STORES
VISA master charge
DOWNTOWN
217 S. Main St.
Open Mon. and Fri. Nites 'til 8:30



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Superb Seafood
in the Chuck Muer Tradition
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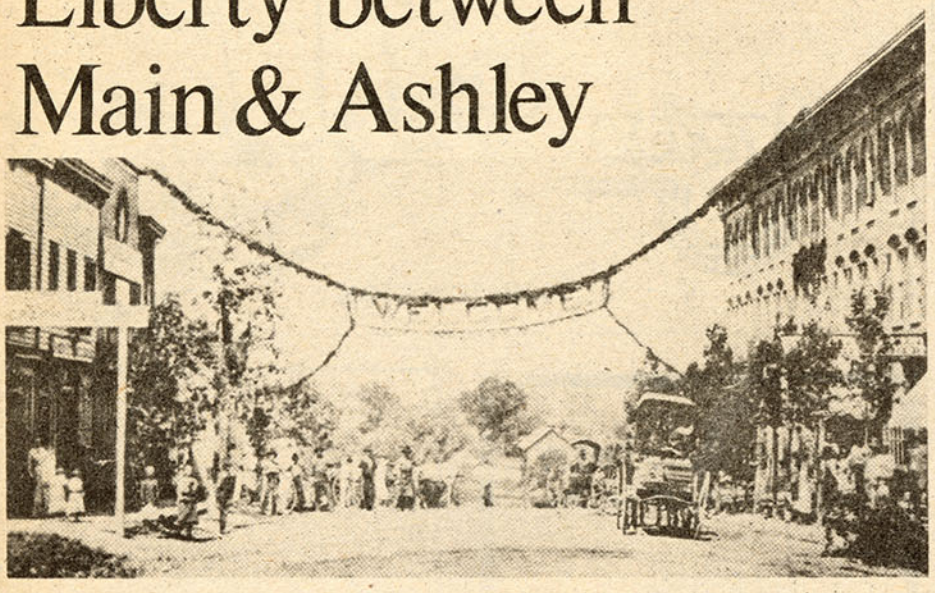
American Express Honored

Then and Now

Liberty between Main & Ashley

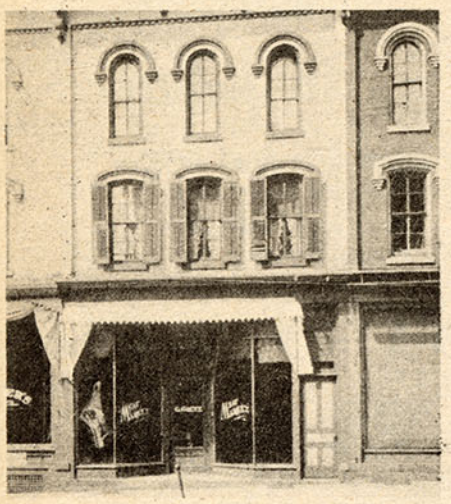


1870

The block at 112-122 West Liberty illustrates the changing cycle of prosperity and decline in central cities. Erected in the late 1860's during the great period of commercial expansion at the end of the Civil War, the buildings replaced smaller frame structures. This type of Italianate commercial block, with its round-arched windows and prominent cornices, was so popular and so widely built that it has come to typify small-town America.

Ann Arbor harnessmakers Anton and Adam Schaeberle had owned the five parcels of land from 114 to 122 W. Liberty. They retained the middle lot and sold the remaining four to others. In 1870 the block housed a flour and feed store, a meat market, and a saloon as well as the Schaeberle business. In those days store owners generally lived above their stores.

The "Welcome" banner in the photo was for German-American Day, a celebration of area Germans held in Ann Arbor that year.



George Goetz, Jr.

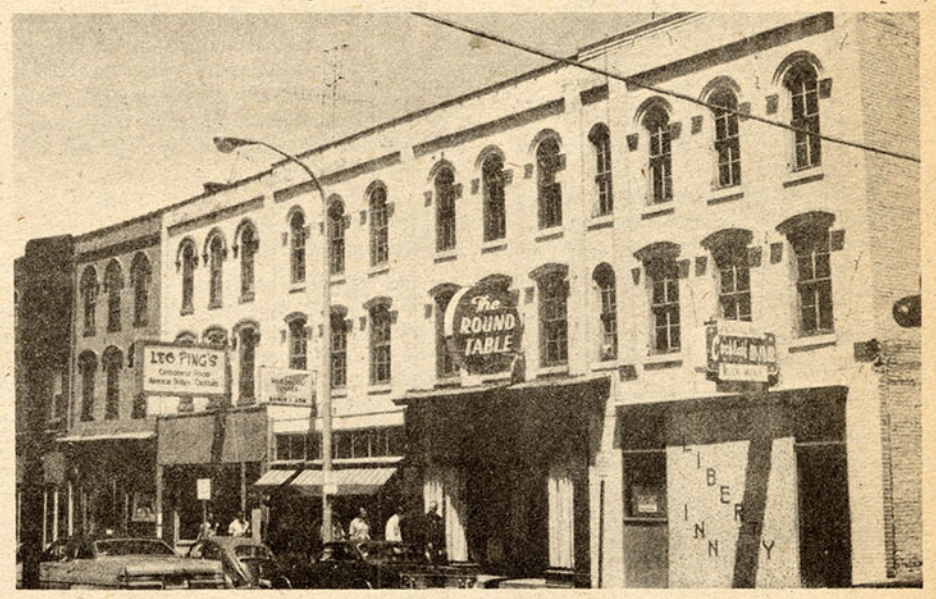
1910

By 1910 most of the brick buildings had been painted, as this photo of 118 W. Liberty, the Goetz Meat Market, indicates.

Within a few years most of the storekeeper occupants had moved their residences to houses on the West Side, where they could have automobiles. The upper stories became rental housing, sometimes for recently-arrived Greek and Italian immigrants.

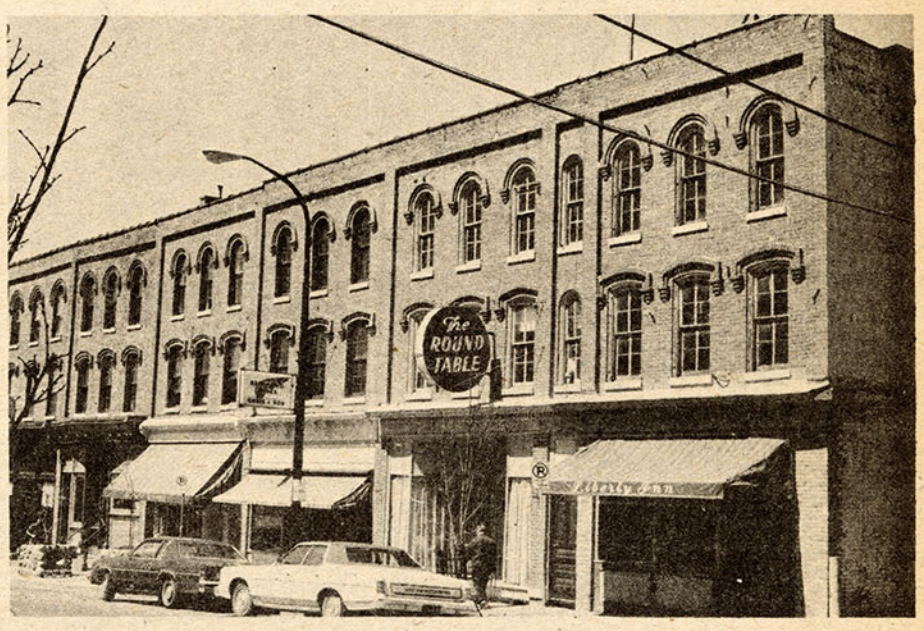
The 1960's may well have marked the low point for aging downtown business districts. Shopping centers drew off much downtown business. To provide parking, buildings on extensive parcels of downtown land were razed. Apartments had largely been divided into rooms for rent.

By the early 1970's young and penurious enterpreneurs were moving into the area, attracted by its charm and cheap space. Early efforts consisted of inexpensive painting and remodeling, as this 1973 photo whows in cases of the two buildings at the left, the Old Town and Mr. Flood's Party.



Susan Wineberg

1973 (above) 1979 (below)



Peter Yates

By 1979 the younger enterpreneurs have become established and prosperous, setting a new tone for the area. Ned Duke acquired the building at 118 housing Leo Ping's Chinese restaurant and turned it into Leopold Bloom's, removing the corrugated metal facade and restoring the front to something more like its original appearance. Eventually all the building owners on the block followed his lead and had the paint chemically removed from their buildings. First story cornices have been replaced, and underused upper stories are being renovated.

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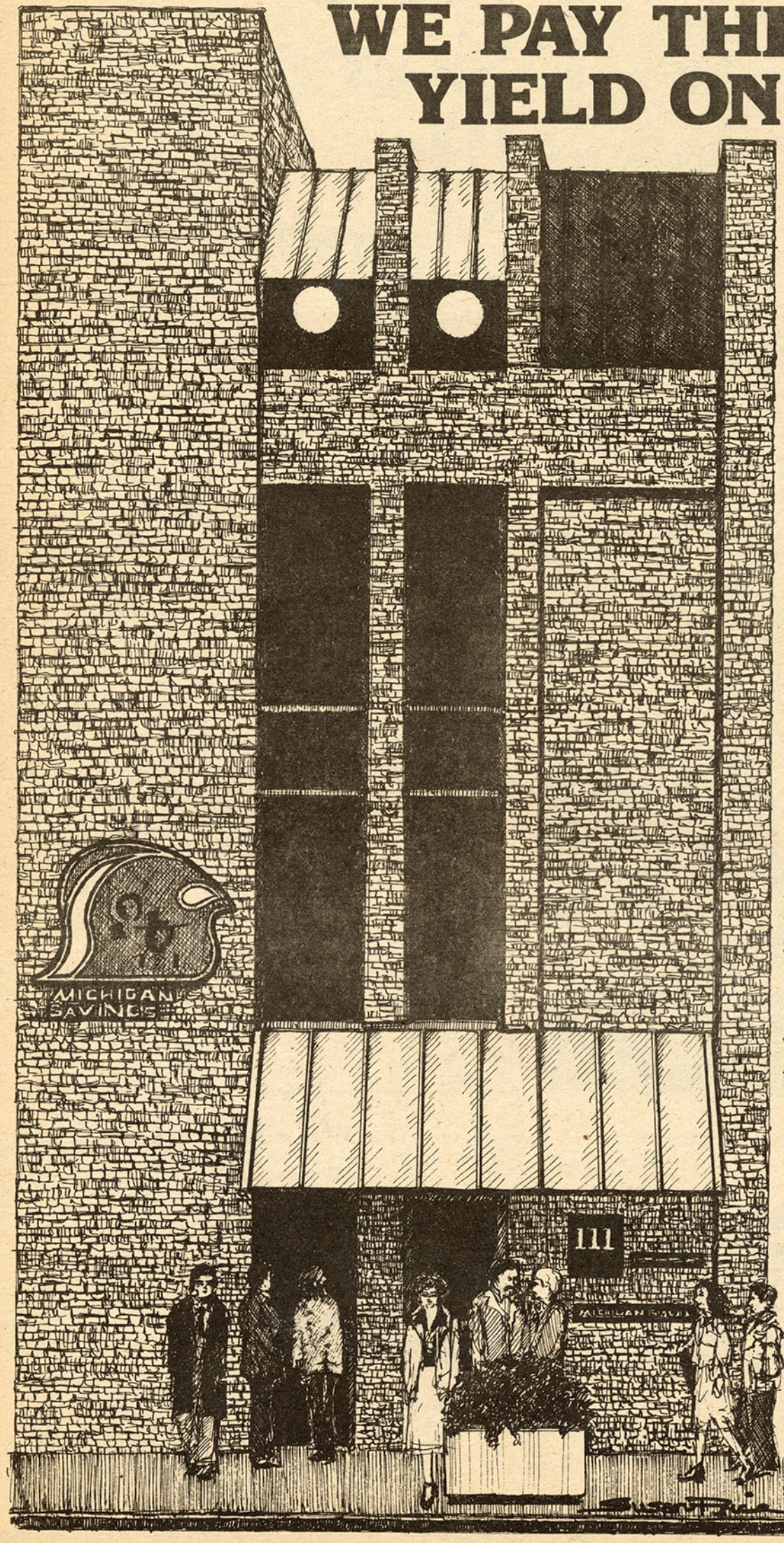

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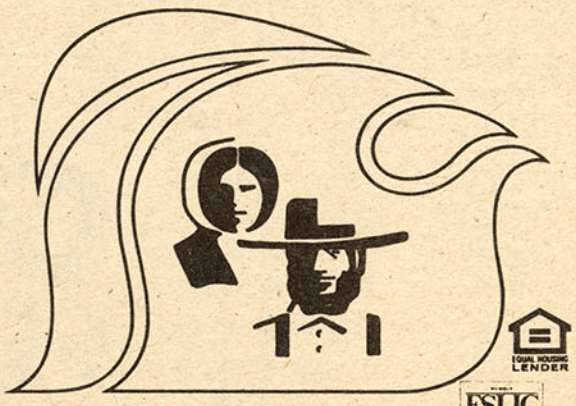

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